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The smut stops here, Canada

From Prince Albert, Saskatchewan to Dildo, Newfoundland, Canadians need to take a long, hard look at their values

PAUL
KNOECHEL

Having all but given up hope on this Godless country and its total lack of moral decency, I got quite the pleasant shocker from Steven Harper when I heard the news of his plan to reopen the gay marriage debate in the House of Commons. I was so excited that I immediately put aside my steaming teakettle and prayed to God and Jesus, thanking them both for working via Mr Harper to abolish the smut they hate so much.

The reason I was so excited for this is because good moral issues have been being ignored in the news lately. I was saying to my attractive friend Mr Peters (usually I'm not so formal and simply call him Hot Karl) a short while ago that I was as furious as an angry dragon over these senseless news stories going around. Things like war in the Middle East, trade relations with the United States, and actions that can be taken in response to North Korea's alleged nuclear weapons test. Pssh. These "big news" stories concern me about as much as a Mexican avalanche.

I miss the good old days, like when people got up in arms (and rightly so) over the Janet Jackson nipple slip. I'll always remember where I was when I heard of her devious act: just sitting in the living room, enjoying a chili dog. But after saw that halftime debacle, I had to put that aside and storm off like an angry pirate to vent my moral outrage. Thanks to the obligatory 'round the clock media focus, an appropriate half-a-million-dollar fine was levied against the network. If only the media weren't as useless as a rusty trombone and had covered all the anti-gay-marriage demonstrations I took part in shoulder to shoulder with strangers, morality would have triumphed. The gay community, having lost and seen the error of their ways, would have faded

into memory like last week's hot lunch.

And to those that say violence on TV is a bigger concern—or that it's a matter of basic human rights that people who are the same as you and me other than their sexual preferences—should be able to marry, I say stop looking at the world as if through Arabian goggles (they're always so scratched up from the sand anyway). First of all, violence isn't caused by observing violence, it comes from immorality, and immorality comes from smut.

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In fact, just the other day I saw Tony Danza mercilessly beating an ass on TV. I tell you, it was the worst donkey punching I'd ever been witness to, and I can assure you this action was born of smut exposure—and not the fact that you can see someone tortured on 24. And secondly, everyone knows God loves gays as much as he loves a foul-smelling tea bag. It's expressly written in the Bible, next to that part about not touching women while they're menstruating and the guidelines for slave ownership.

So Mr Harper, I urge you, when the time comes to open this debate in the house, wear your finest Cincinnati bow tie, speak most unlike a dirty sailor, emulate ol' Abe Lincoln and make your mark on morality. You'll earn my eternal respect—and maybe a candy cane or two come the holiday season. But more importantly, you'll keep this country from degrading into one big alligator fuck house.

Today's article is brought to you by the letter E and the number 0

MARIA
KOTOVYCH

distribution of data. If the extremes were to become the most common instances, they wouldn't really be "extreme" anymore, would they?

There are additional logical fallacies with using the word "extreme." Think, for example, about Maybelline's Moisture Extreme lipstick. Is it possible to have extreme moisture? Can something that is already wet be even more wet? I understand going from damp to wet. That's possible. But from wet to extremely wet? I don't know about that one.

But going back to Elmo, what exactly is so extreme about the TMX version, anyway? When he's tickled, he laughs, slaps his leg, falls onto the ground, kicks his feet and pounds the floor. As someone who's very ticklish, I can tell you that Elmo's reaction to being tickled is pretty normal. And even as a toy, Elmo isn't particularly unusual either: there are some pretty sophisticated gizmos out there these days. Perhaps if Elmo lost bladder control from laughing so hard, peed all over the floor and yelled "stop tickling me, you sadistic bitch!"—now *that* would be extreme.

Part of being a University student involves developing and honing our critical thinking skills (and apparently, another part of being a student involves writing in-depth commentaries about toys intended for toddlers). Regardless, these critical thinking skills are crucial so that we can decipher the many messages we as consumers receive from media and advertisers. Whether the messages are about toys or more serious topics such as body image and self-esteem, it's important for us to evaluate all the messages that we receive so that we can choose what information to accept.

On 19 September, Mattel released TMX Elmo, a new doll commemorating the tenth anniversary of the obscenely popular Tickle Me Elmo doll. And while the "X" of "TMX" stands for "ten," it also for "Xtreme," because this doll is supposedly an extreme version of the original Elmo doll.

Now, I don't know about you, but the last time I looked up the word "extreme" in the dictionary (and that would be about two minutes ago), the word began with an E, not an X. I must warn you that I'm a language geek, and as such, I'm put off by stupid gimmicks such as "x-treme."

You see, the root of this word can be traced through Middle English and Middle French all the way back to the Latin word *extremus*. Marketers and marketing students, please note that Latin users didn't spell it *x-tremus*. Have some respect for the dead and spell the word in question with an E.

Why does the word "extreme" come up so often in marketing anyway? Sports. Food items. Makeup. It seems that anything and everything is "extreme" (or "x-treme") these days. If all of these products claim to be "farthest removed from the ordinary or average," then doesn't "being extreme" just end up becoming "the average?" Think about what you know about a normal



CONAL PIERSE

Hey, Bush, leave that border alone

All in all, there'll be just another bunch of Mexicans trying to get around a wall



CONAL PIERSE

Once again, it seems that America is under attack. The enemy this time? Illegal Mexican immigrants who don't remember the Alamo. President Bush recently signed into law the annual homeland-security spending bill, which this year includes a down payment for 700 miles of fence along the US/Mexico border.

You see, it's much simpler to build a fence along the nearly 2000 miles of border than to deal with the underlying issues. However, I'm a little disappointed in Bush's level of commitment to this issue. I mean, Mordor had a wall too, and we all know what happened there. And if two ambiguously gay midgets can get past a giant iron wall and through a wasteland populated by orcs, what chance does a simple fence have against the criminal genius that is the collective

Mexican mind? Remember, we're dealing with a real nest of vipers here. Now, I know Mr Bush is a very busy man and doesn't have the time to contemplate these sorts of issues, so I've done him a favour and written up a plan of attack for him.

First of all, the wall has to be at least 20 feet high and must be made of reinforced concrete. This wall is going to work like a giant dam: there'll be so many Mexicans converging on the border that you'll be able to smell the enchiladas from Denver. Secondly, there needs to be a moat on both sides of the wall filled with specially trained dolphins. Swimming with these bad boys will fill little terminally ill Poncho's burrito with the beans of Justice.

On top of this wall will be bears and barbed wire. Why bears? The answer is simple: they're used to catching salmon as they swim upstream, denying them access to those sweet, sweet spawning grounds in what can be called nature's biggest cock block. Now if we consider this wall to be a river, Mexicans salmon, and America the sweet spawning grounds ... you get where I'm going. The second key ingredient in this recipe is that bears are cold-blooded

and without ruth. There's no reasoning with them, and they never sleep.

My next idea might be a little controversial, but let me assure you that it's in the interest of the American public. As you all know, we're currently able to genetically modify food to make it enormous. I'm talking tomatoes the size of a child. What I suggest is that we use this technology in combination with radiation therapy to make a giant Komodo dragon that will patrol the fence. Once scientists discover the gene linked to loving America and clone it into our reptilian protector, our borders will be safe and patriots will finally be able to understand the greeters at Southern Walmarts.

Funding this shouldn't be a problem, either. America-loving patriots will take time out of their busy schedules to work menial jobs like lawn care and fry-guy at McDonalds for a wage lower than illegal immigrants are willing to work for, and put the money earned towards maintenance of the wall. With their combined will and love of their country, I'm sure that America's heroes can make my plan work and ensure that their melting pot is used for freedom fries, not tacos.

Babies: from Russia's wombs with love



RAMON OSTAD

Earlier this week, I read a bit of news that reminded of one of my favorite *Futurama* episodes, in which the space captain Zap Brannigan discusses his victory against the massive Killbot army. You see, Brannigan is a very intelligent being. He knew that the Killbots had a kill limit of 500 kills each. So, in order to defeat this terrible army, he sent waves and waves of his own men in against their unstoppable forces, until every Killbot eventually reached their kill limit. He became a hero among humanity for his brilliant plan.

I was reminded of this since-canceled television show by a news article, which claimed that due to Russia's rapidly increasing death rate—the CIA pegs it at 14.65 per 1000 people (compare that to 7.8 per 1000 here in Canada), and many analysts predict the population to wane by tens of millions in the next few decades—there have been reports of many Russian bureaucrats attempting to reverse the trend by any means necessary. In the province of Ulyanovsk, for example, Governor Sergey Morozov decided to

provide his people with an afternoon off work, under the condition that they spend this free time attempting to reproduce as vigorously as humanly possible—a process he dubbed “making patriots.”

Of course, “making patriots” is all well and good, but actually delivering them is a different story altogether for the Russian people. Aside from pollution and environmental degradation (which has led to birth defects and miscarriages), a gender imbalance created by World War II casualties, rampant alcoholism, a lack of immigration and a low birth rate to match, abortion is one of the leading causes of Russia's plummeting population figures. In fact, there are more abortions in Russia than actual births, partly due to the increased risk of poverty when there's an additional mouth to feed.

As incentive, Governor Morozov has decreed that every parent who gives birth on 12 June 2007—Russia's current Independence Day—will be eligible for such gifts as washing machines and four-wheel-drive vehicles, which are blatantly obvious (if not self-explanatory) solutions to Russia's crisis. In fact, the idea is so fantastic that Russian President Vladimir Putin decided to go national with it, offering the equivalent of \$10 600CDN to every mother who gives birth to a second child.

Now, I'm a simple man. I don't know too much about international politics, economics or how to run a country—I'm really not all that experienced with patriot-making. But it does strike me as kind of odd when the leaders of a nation decide that, in order to stave off the complete extinction of their people, they should offer said people cars and washing machines in exchange for babies. Forgiving the fact that these “incentives” will probably be the used products of Russian politicians who have already bought newer models from their European counterparts, the Russian government has resorted to giving these future patriots a market value, as if they were some sort of livestock. As a result, even if these people start pumping out more units, the life expectancy will be critically low.

Apparently, giving your people proper living conditions before you ask them to make more actual people didn't really strike them as an efficient game plan. So instead, Putin has decided to put Brannigan's Law into effect. I assume that his hope is to create enough constant births that the birth-to-death ration will just sort of cancel itself out—kind of like killing enough of your own men till the Killbots just can't do it anymore. But hey, Brannigan's a hero. And there's nothing wrong with following in the ashes—I mean footsteps—of our heroes.

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PROFESSOR OF THE WEEK



DR. DENIS
LAMOREUX
CHRTC 350

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Excellent teaching is the foundation of an outstanding undergraduate education, and the university community needs to begin to value everyday achievements in undergraduate teaching.

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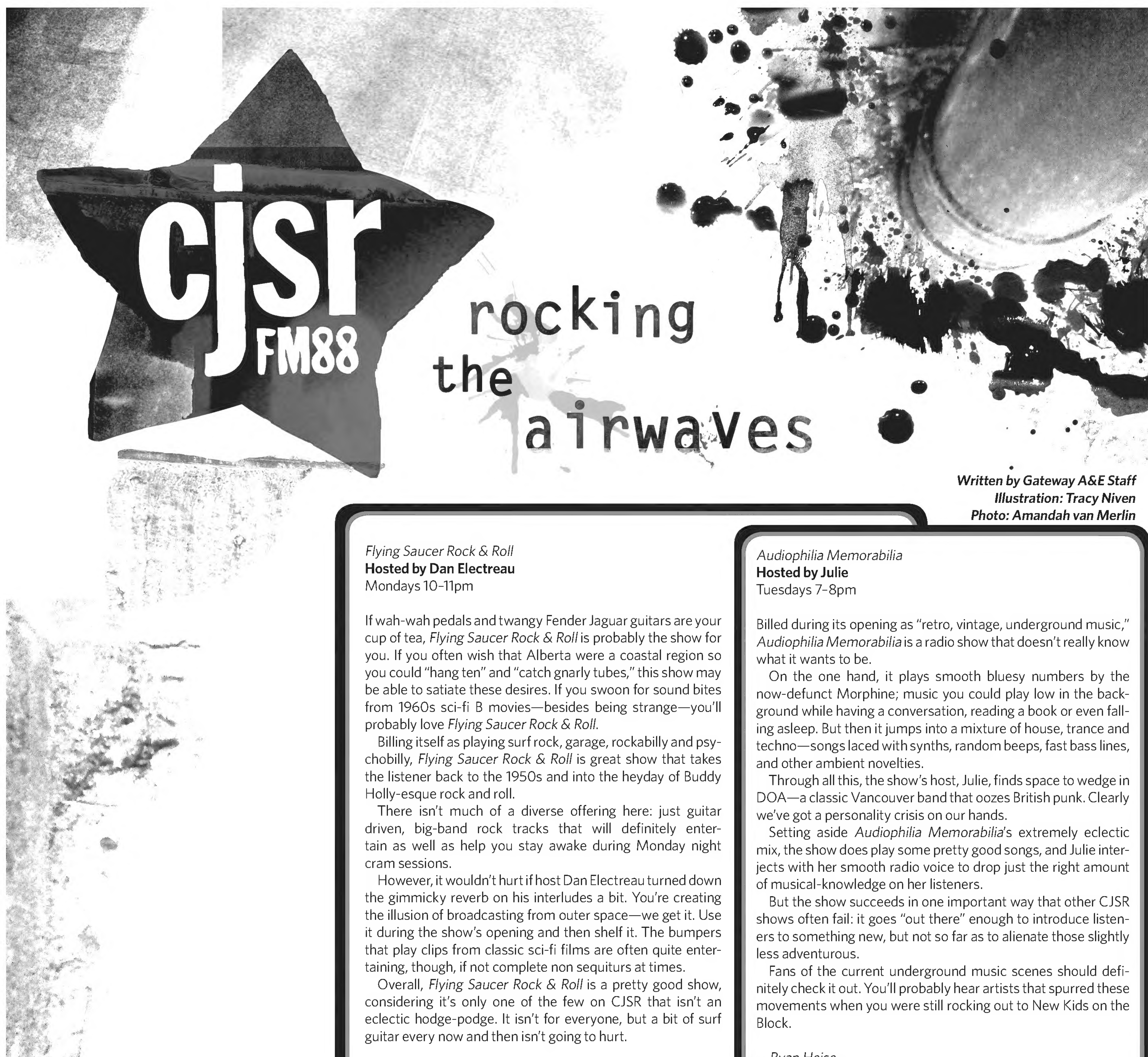
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Written by Gateway A&E Staff
Illustration: Tracy Niven
Photo: Amandah van Merlin

Flying Saucer Rock & Roll
Hosted by Dan Electreau
Mondays 10-11pm

If wah-wah pedals and twangy Fender Jaguar guitars are your cup of tea, *Flying Saucer Rock & Roll* is probably the show for you. If you often wish that Alberta were a coastal region so you could “hang ten” and “catch gnarly tubes,” this show may be able to satiate these desires. If you swoon for sound bites from 1960s sci-fi B movies—besides being strange—you’ll probably love *Flying Saucer Rock & Roll*.

Billing itself as playing surf rock, garage, rockabilly and psychobilly, *Flying Saucer Rock & Roll* is great show that takes the listener back to the 1950s and into the heyday of Buddy Holly-esque rock and roll.

There isn’t much of a diverse offering here: just guitar driven, big-band rock tracks that will definitely entertain as well as help you stay awake during Monday night cram sessions.

However, it wouldn’t hurt if host Dan Electreau turned down the gimmicky reverb on his interludes a bit. You’re creating the illusion of broadcasting from outer space—we get it. Use it during the show’s opening and then shelf it. The bumpers that play clips from classic sci-fi films are often quite entertaining, though, if not complete non sequiturs at times.

Overall, *Flying Saucer Rock & Roll* is a pretty good show, considering it’s only one of the few on CJSR that isn’t an eclectic hodge-podge. It isn’t for everyone, but a bit of surf guitar every now and then isn’t going to hurt.

—Ryan Heise

Audiophilia Memorabilia
Hosted by Julie
Tuesdays 7-8pm

Billed during its opening as “retro, vintage, underground music,” *Audiophilia Memorabilia* is a radio show that doesn’t really know what it wants to be.

On the one hand, it plays smooth bluesy numbers by the now-defunct Morphine; music you could play low in the background while having a conversation, reading a book or even falling asleep. But then it jumps into a mixture of house, trance and techno—songs laced with synths, random beeps, fast bass lines, and other ambient novelties.

Through all this, the show’s host, Julie, finds space to wedge in DOA—a classic Vancouver band that oozes British punk. Clearly we’ve got a personality crisis on our hands.

Setting aside *Audiophilia Memorabilia*’s extremely eclectic mix, the show does play some pretty good songs, and Julie interjects with her smooth radio voice to drop just the right amount of musical-knowledge on her listeners.

But the show succeeds in one important way that other CJSR shows often fail: it goes “out there” enough to introduce listeners to something new, but not so far as to alienate those slightly less adventurous.

Fans of the current underground music scenes should definitely check it out. You’ll probably hear artists that spurred these movements when you were still rocking out to New Kids on the Block.

—Ryan Heise

A Clockwork Orange Juice
Hosted by Markie and Kevin Moose
Wednesdays 7-9 am

A Clockwork Orange Juice is determined to be the shot of vitamin C that helps get you out of bed in the early morning every Wednesday.

Hosted by long-time CJSR veterans Markie and Kevin Moose, the show is a musical grab bag, pulling out everything from funk music to “hot buttered popcorn.” No genre or era is safe from its grasp, as *A Clockwork Orange Juice* is one of those eclectic shows that CJSR rightfully prides itself on.

The show peaks near the halfway point with the Vinyl Hunter contest (a listener guides a “robotic moose” through a library of Vinyl LPs to select a track), and plateaus there through until the end comes at 9am. However, hosts Markie and Kevin could inject more immediate excitement into their voices, right off the bat. The show starts at 7am, damn it, and most listeners will just be coming out of a near-comatose sleep.

However, there’s much worse your ears could be subjected to at seven in the morning. If you have to be up at that forsaken hour, *A Clockwork Orange Juice* makes for fine breakfast listening. Just bring your own coffee.

—Paul Blinov

Put It On The Fritz
Hosted by Fritz François
Thursdays from 12:06-1pm

Kicking off every Thursday at noon—right after BBC news—*Put It On The Fritz* features host Fritz François’ eclectic musical selections.

Consistent with much of CJSR’s weekday programming, Fritz plays a wide array of musical genres, with a particular emphasis on fresh, new music. This focus contrasts nicely with Fritz’s obvious appreciation for classic performers such as Herbie Hancock. He also covers the local scene and upcoming shows with diligence, making the show an excellent resource for the discerning gig attendee. And, like much of his CJSR brethren, Fritz welcomes and accommodates listener requests; when he can’t fit them into his relatively brief set, he’s sure to pass requests on to DJ Wetspot of *You’re Soaking In It*, the show immediately following his.

This dedication to the listener, combined with the interesting array of music, makes *Put It On The Fritz* an informative and sonically pleasing lunchtime diversion.

—Geoff Clarke

You’re Soaking In It
Hosted by DJ Wetspot
Thursdays, 1-3pm

Hosted by your friendly neighbourhood DJ Wetspot, *You’re Soaking In It* runs every Thursday afternoon with a set list that covers a broad spectrum of music, including—but not limited to—indie rock, hip-hop, funk, reggae, afrobeat and electro. She also throws in the occasional bit of dance music, a genre underserved by the station’s predominantly rock/country-oriented weekday programming.

DJ Wetspot is also well aware of the local arts and music scene, frequently providing information about upcoming shows and events. To further this, she conducts interviews with a wide variety of musicians, artists and event organizers. These interviews provide an informative change of pace, and convey the host’s deep interest in the cultural goings-on of our city. Wetspot’s endearingly self-deprecating on-air persona ensures that these discussions are listenable regardless of one’s interest in the subject.

As an alternative to the inane babble and predictable set lists that pepper the FM dial, *You’re Soaking In It* is as refreshing as a cold swim on an oppressively hot day.

—Geoff Clarke

ON AIR

Asiko Phantom Pyramid
Hosted by Minister Faust
 Thursdays, 8-10pm

As DJ (and *Gateway* alum) Minister Faust announces occasionally throughout the program—"From Algeria to Zimbabwe, from Togo to Tobago ..."—African music can't be pigeonholed into one over-generalized category.

Indeed, *Asiko Phantom Pyramid's* playlist is definitely a mosaic of styles. There are songs sung in African languages and songs sung in English. You'll hear music filled with ancient African influences as well as songs with Western-born styles such as rap and hip-hop. Less popular genres or those not so easily associated with African music are also included: songs with classic rock vibes by artists like Peter Gabriel along with classically beautiful-sounding *kora* music, which is based on a 21-string harp.

Asiko Phantom Pyramid plays songs dealing with issues largely untouched by music you'd hear on, say, the Bounce: songs about fathers telling their daughters to throw away the old notion of what women should be like. Then, there are artists like K'naan describing what life in his native Somalia was like. Indeed, the *Asiko Phantom Pyramid* shows us there's far more to African music than rappers bragging about their cars and bling, underscored by heart-thumping bass beats.

—Kristina De Guzman

Smilin' Jay's Happy Hour
Hosted by Smilin' Jay
 Fridays, 2-3pm

Smilin' Jay's Happy Hour is a good way to celebrate the end of the week. The show is recorded live in and around Edmonton, with a variety of (mostly local) acts putting on an hour-long showcase of their music.

Recording the show live means that all of the mistakes are left in, technical or otherwise, and thus there's the occasional delay while an amp is acting up. But Smilin' Jay keeps it all together, nice and smooth. He makes a seamless transition to the live setting with quick, hilarious banter that keeps any pauses in music from becoming lulls in the show.

The quality of the music depends on the band performing, but to namedrop a bit, the show has hosted local rock giants Whitey Houston and punk-rockers Our Mercury, among a plethora of others, so the subject matter is fairly diverse.

Overall, Smilin' Jay knows how to keep a live audience happy, and provides an entertaining showcase of budding talent that shouldn't be missed. Happy hour, indeed.

—Paul Blinov

Catch the Beat
Hosted by CameronSound and Ben Jammin'
 4-6pm Saturday

Anchored by CameronSound and Ben Jammin', *Catch the Beat* plays the kind of music your mother warned you about: the kind that will move your body and your soul. You'll find one common thread in all the songs from all the sub-genres perused on the show—breaks. Big breaks. Break beats that, try and resist as you may, will find you succumbing to head-nod factor of songs from acts like Venetian Snares (a house producer from Winnipeg), Frank Zappa, and Diplo.

This isn't your parent's radio show; where else besides *Catch the Beat* can you find Feist sandwiched between local act Red Ram and British DJ Danny Breaks? The show does an admirable job of pulling from a wide array of (admittedly related) genres, with everything from drum and bass (DJ Krinjah) and Philadelphia soul (courtesy of The O'Jays) to indie rock (courtesy of perennial hipster favourites Pavement).

But perhaps the best reason to tune into *Catch the Beat* are the hosts themselves. CameronSound and Ben Jammin' are funny dudes; they pull off uncanny accents and even freestyle a song—in Jack Black fashion—dedicated to a listener (thanks Jack!) who donated \$500.98 to CJSR's annual FunDrive fundraiser.

If the music sucked, it would still be worth catching the beat just to hear the amusing antics of the hosts.

—Renato Pagnani

House Underground
Hosted by DJ Xu
 9-10pm Saturday

Treating what is played in mainstream clubs around Edmonton as a fairly indicative sample for the rest of North America doesn't reveal a healthy prognosis for dance music. Then again, what is popular in other places (I'm looking at you, supposedly cooler Europe) isn't always that much of an improvement. This is why CJSR takes it to the underground on Saturday nights.

House Underground (known from here on in as *HU*) is one of the most fittingly titled radio shows on CJSR—don't expect to hear anything that doesn't fit in the house or underground realm.

Garage, drum and bass, house, and break-core is what you'll find on *HU*. If you're looking for something to shake what your momma gave you, and are sick of hearing the same four songs every weekend at the bar, *HU* will provide an hour of non-stop dance music (and house edits of songs from such artists as Justin Timberlake and MIA) that's decidedly better than the crap on the rest of the FM dial.

The only downside to *HU's* hustle is that with few interjections by any hosts, you won't know what you're listening to—not that it'll matter when your grinding with that pretty girl from History class, anyway.

—Renato Pagnani

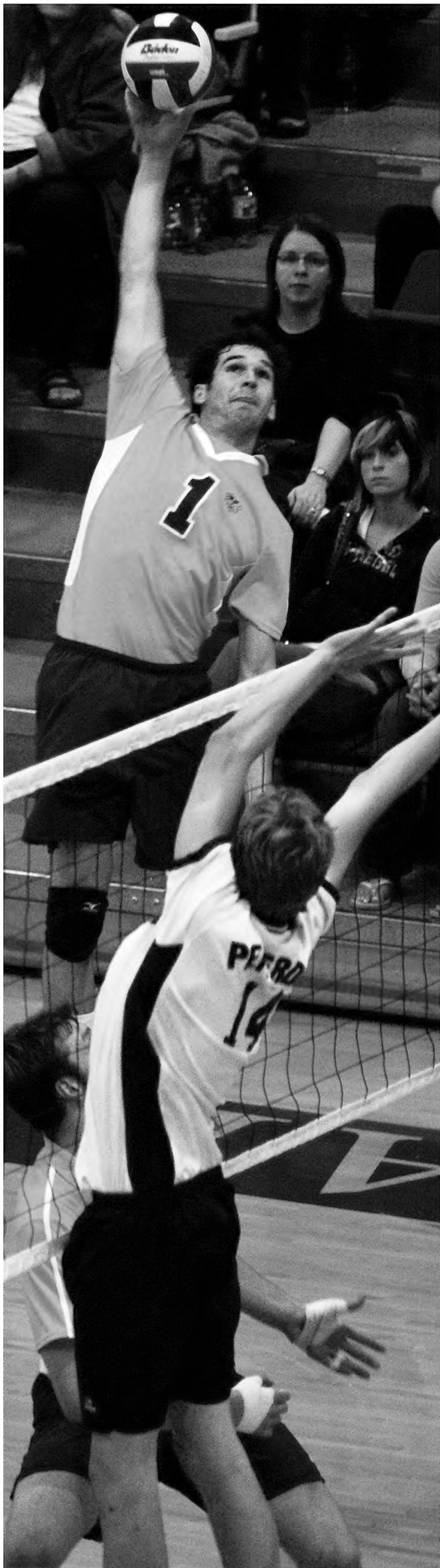
Jazzology
Hosted by Steve MacLeod
 Sundays from 9-11am

According to the CJSR website, this show runs Sundays from 9-11pm, but the time has now switched to 9-11am on Sundays. *Jazzology* is a soothing program, featuring different styles of jazz. This show focuses on artists who will be soon appearing at the Yardbird Suite, and does a good job of promoting these artists.

Unfortunately, this emphasis doesn't allow for a very broad range of jazz eras to be covered, which is something the show's website description promises. Last Sunday, for instance, there was one piece from the 1960s, and one piece from 2005. Despite this, the styles of jazz presented in this show were fairly varied, and faster and energetic pieces were interspersed among slower and more mellow tunes. Host Steve MacLeod provides enough background on the pieces to give them a context, yet does not overtake the amount of music that can be played because he's too busy talking. It's a good program, and its time slot on Sunday mornings makes it a nice and relaxing show that jazz lovers can listen to while getting ready for their day.

—Maria Kotovych





FILE PHOTO: LEANNE FONG

THE BIG TIME The Can-Am tournament is a big draw for U of A volleyball.

National Pride

Eight top university volleyball teams converge on the U of A this weekend to compete in the Husky Energy Can-Am Challenge. Continental bragging rights are on the line as four NCAA teams will take on four from CIS

ANDREW RENFREE
Sports Staff

Bears volleyball head coach Terry Danyluk remembers how difficult it was to start an international university volleyball tournament eleven years ago. In the early days, American teams scoffed at travelling to Edmonton in the cold fall weather for exhibition volleyball matches. In fact, for the inaugural year, only one American school was willing to come, with a second making the trip the next year. It wasn't until the third year, with the tournament gaining notoriety, that four American schools came to play four Canadian squads: the current format of the Husky Energy Can-Am Challenge today.

"Since then, we've been able to get teams to come on a regular basis, and actually have our choice of teams, for the most part," Danyluk noted.

Today, Edmonton's Can-Am volleyball tournament is touted as one of the best international volleyball competitions in North America. Pepperdine University head coach Marv Dunphy was here the very first year of the Can-Am tournament and credited Danyluk with organizing such a strong volleyball competition, citing his work as the reason Pepperdine continues to return every fall.

"There's a lot of things that you could and couldn't do when you run an event, and we've always tried to make all the little things special," Danyluk said. "We have full officials, score keepers, TV and we do a lot of things that you don't normally see done in pre-season tournaments. For the athletes competing here, all of that extra stuff and the ability to have good competition all at the same time makes it feel almost like a formal championship."

According to Danyluk, the tournament is unique because, unlike other university-level competitions, it pits

the schools against one another in a country versus country setting.

"The Can-Am is one of the top tournaments, as far as I'm concerned, in the country," Trinity Western head coach Ron Pike said. "The calibre of volleyball is very high."

This year's Can-Am tournament pits four of the best men's volleyball squads from CIS against four of the top teams from south of the border that play in the NCAA.

Trinity Western, Alberta, Manitoba and McMaster, ranked first, second, third and fifth respectively last season, will represent Canada. Pepperdine University, Long Beach State, Brigham Young University and Indiana Purdue Fort Wayne (IPFW) will represent the United States. The format is set up so that each Canadian team plays each American team once, for a total of 16 highly competitive matches in three days. Each team victory is counted as one for their country, and the country with the most wins takes home the tournament.

In many sports, the calibre of competition in the NCAA is considerably higher than CIS; however, Canadian teams have dominated the Can-Am volleyball tournament since its inception. Canada has won seven of the ten tournaments against their American counterparts, including a 10-6 game victory last fall. Part of the reason for the Canadian dominance could be that the NCAA season starts later in the year and the Canadian squads have been training for a several weeks now, gearing up for the regular season that starts at the end of October.

Danyluk attributed the dominance to the strong talent pool in Canada. He noted that it's not as deep as the NCAA talent pool, but the top Canadian schools can hold their own on the volleyball court against the top American schools.

"They have top quality teams in

Canada," IPFW head coach Arnie Bell concurred. "There is not a large pool of teams in [the US], and therefore not a large pool of players. Volleyball is much more popular in [Canada] than it is here, for men. Therefore I think the balance is much closer than it would be in basketball or football or anything like that."

"There've been some good Canadian teams which has always helped Canada do well, and I don't think this year is any exception," Pike added. "The Americans are pretty early in their season and haven't had a chance to train—that's a pretty big factor for them."

Despite the fact that this is an exhibition tournament that has no real impact on the season, all the coaches seem to agree that there's national pride at stake. The NCAA is always touted as the stronger athletic organization, so whenever Canadian teams can win some matches against American competition things can get heated on the court.

"I think there is some national pride," Danyluk said. "The tournament is set up country against country, and when a spectator comes to the gym it doesn't matter when they come, it will always be Canada against USA."

"Each year we seem to be reminded as the tournament goes on, and as we head towards those last matches, it becomes much more of a rivalry between countries by the time we're adding up points in our last game," Pike said. "There's probably a little more to it than we might say initially, but it's a good exhibition tournament."

The tournament is scheduled to run Thursday night as well as all day Friday and Saturday. Tonight is Student Appreciation Night and anyone with a ONEcard gets in free of charge to the matchup between the U of A and IPFW at 7pm in the Main Gym.

THE COMPETITION

Trinity Western Spartans

Langley, British Columbia
2005/06 record: 26-7
2006 CIS Champions
2005 CIS silver medallists

Alberta Golden Bears

Edmonton, Alberta
2005/06 record: 34-2
2006 CIS silver medallists
2005 CIS Champions

Manitoba Bisons

Winnipeg, Manitoba
2005/06 record: 21-9
2006 CIS bronze medallists
2003 CIS Champions

McMaster Marauders

Hamilton, Ontario
2005/06 record: 27-17
2006 CIS sixth-place finish
2007 CIS nationals host

IPFW Mastodons

Fort Wayne, Indiana
2006 record: 23-7
2006 NCAA semifinalists

Pepperdine Waves

Malibu, California
2006 record: 17-8
2006 NCAA sixth-ranked team
2005 NCAA Champions

Long Beach State 49ers

Long Beach, California
2006 record: 23-10
2006 NCAA third-ranked team
1-3 in last year's Can-Am

Brigham Young Cougars

Provo, Utah
2006 record: 18-9
2006 NCAA seventh-ranked team
2004 NCAA Champions

SCHEDULE

Thursday, Main Gym

ALB vs IPFW, 7pm

Friday, Main Gym

BYU vs MAC, 10am
LBS vs MAN, 12pm
TWU vs IPFW, 4pm
MAN vs BYU, 6:30pm
ALB vs PEPP, 8pm

Friday, Pavilion

PEPP vs TWU, 10am
MAC vs LBS, 6:30pm

Saturday, Main Gym

PEPP vs MAC, 10am
LBS vs ALB, 12pm
MAN vs PEPP, 4pm
TWU vs LBS, 6:30pm
ALB vs BYU, 8pm

Saturday, Pavilion

IPFW vs MAN, 10am
BYU vs TWU, 12pm
MAC vs IPFW, 6:30pm

Bears host Dinos on quest for football post-season

Alberta leading a pack of three teams vying for the final two playoff spots

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI
Sports Staff

With more than half the season over and the battle for playoff spots tightening up in Canada West, the matchup this weekend between the Golden Bears (3–2) and the University of Calgary Dinos (0–5) is far more important than the records might indicate. With just three games remaining in the season, five teams still have legitimate claims to the four post-season spots that are up for grabs.

While the Manitoba Bisons and Saskatchewan Huskies have separated themselves from the rest of the pack and almost guaranteed themselves playoff berths by posting five wins apiece, it's the tier of teams that the Bears are mixed in with that could provide the most fireworks down the stretch. Sharing a 3–2 record with the University of British Columbia and with the University of Regina hot on their heels with two wins, Alberta head coach Jerry Friesen figures the struggle for the final playoff spots could come down to the final weekend of the regular season.

"There are lots of games to be played and if you look at the schedules UBC has games left against Simon Fraser (0–5), Calgary and Manitoba (5–0) and that will probably give them four or five wins," Friesen said. "Then Regina plays Saskatchewan

(5–1), Manitoba and us, so between us and those other teams, it's going to be a shooting match."

"We've played every team that we're going to be facing in the next three games so I think we've got enough firepower to meet challenges, and we're all at home and that's a huge factor [in our favour]."

JERRY FRIESEN
BEARS FOOTBALL HEAD COACH

The Bears will close out the season at home: Calgary rolls into town this weekend, perennial rivals and Canada West power Saskatchewan—who dismantled Alberta 27–6 in the first meeting between the two this season—stops by next week, and Alberta wraps up the season by hosting Regina in the final Canada West regular season game of the year—a game that could make or break the Bears' playoff hopes. It's a middle-of-the-road schedule for the Bears that, on paper, pales to the easy route UBC has before them, but is simpler

than Regina's—who will likely need to win out and get some help from Alberta and UBC losses if they're to make a post-season appearance.

"We've played every team that we're going to be facing in the next three games so I think we've got enough firepower to meet challenges, and we're all at home and that's a huge factor [in our favour]," Friesen said. "We took care of our road games so now we can settle in and [hopefully] benefit from [our] key games being at home."

While ending the season victorious on their home field will be essential if the Bears are to make the playoffs for their fourth-straight season, they can't expect the winless Dinos to be a pushover this weekend. While Calgary hasn't torn up the conference under new head coach and two-time Vanier Cup champion Blake Nill, the Dinos will be looking to avenge a last-play loss to the Bears that derailed their season in week two. First-year running back Tendayi Jozzy rushed for 187 yards and safety-turned-placekicker Scott Stevenson booted a 22-yard field goal to give Alberta a 17–15 victory in Calgary on 9 September.

The Dinos and Bears kick off at 7pm Saturday at Foote Field. If you're unwilling to get frostbite outdoors, you can hear the game live on the TEAM 1260, brought to you by Blake Dermott and Bob "Drives the ladies crazy" Stauffer.



FILE PHOTO: NICK WIEBE

TAKING THE SNAP The Bears are in the centre of a tight playoff race.

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Dr. Lawrence Krauss is the Director of the Center for Education in Research in Cosmology and Astrophysics at Case Western Reserve University. He is also an internationally renowned scientist, writer, and commentator on science and society. His work in advancing science in the public has garnered him numerous prizes and honours. He is outspoken on such hot topics as intelligent design. The author of several popular science books, including *The Physics of Star Trek*, Dr. Krauss is a contributor to *The New York Times*, and is a regular guest on radio and television programs.

Dr. Krauss will be the featured guest on CBC Radio's *Wild Rose Country* at noon on Tuesday October 17

A H F M R



ALBERTA HERITAGE FOUNDATION
FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH



KEEP AWAY Alix Strap (white) and her Pandas teammates have a tough battle for position Saturday in Calgary. FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

Soccer Pandas take on Dinos in battle for second

Weekend series against Calgary, Lethbridge could alter Canada West standings

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

Halfway through the season might be too early to start watching the standings, but a battle for second place this weekend in Calgary has the Pandas soccer squad counting up the points.

“I always watch the standings,” head coach Liz Jepsen said with a laugh. “But for us it’s really important to not look past our next game because when you do that, you tend to lose focus.”

The Dinos (5-1-2) enter the contest without a loss, since falling to Alberta at Foote, and in the midst of a seven-game homestand. The Calgarians currently sit only one point back of their northern foes. This will be the third meeting of the two squads this year; Alberta beat the Dinos 1-0 on the pitch at Foote Field on 10 September and in exhibition play in August. Both contests were closer than expected for Jepsen.

“The first time we saw [Calgary], I thought we had a lot of opportunities to finish, but I didn’t really anticipate Calgary to be as tough as they are,” she said.

In addition to often matching up in CIS competition, the players of both squads frequently meet while playing club soccer during the off-season,

creating a familiarity that Jepsen believes will be a factor.

“You have to be that much sharper on the day of [the game],” she said. “You have a good idea of what your opponent is trying to execute, and they know what you’re trying to do, so it’s whether or not you can win that battle.”

“[Losing to UVic] was a good lesson, so we’ll be able to carry that through and have a little fresh pinch for what it feels like to not necessarily achieve that goal.”

LIZ JEPSEN,
PANDAS HEAD COACH

This will be the second straight weekend series that sees the Pandas in a battle for positioning in the tightly packed Canada West leaderboard; Alberta hosted Victoria in a battle for first place. The loss to the undefeated Vikes dropped them to 6-2-0 on the

season and proved that they could play well and still lose.

“We played UVic and we were battling them for first place and battling them for a higher ranking, and we didn’t come out on top. [Losing to UVic] was a good lesson, so we’ll be able to carry that through and have a little fresh pinch for what it feels like to not necessarily achieve that goal,” Jepsen said.

After their game against the Dinos, the Pandas have a short trek down highways two and three to Lethbridge to take on the Pronghorns for the third time this year. The Pandas downed them 4-0 in exhibition play in Lethbridge and shut them out again, 1-0, when they hosted them to start the regular season. Still the Pronghorns’ 1-7-0 record belies the dangerous team, according to Jepsen.

“They’re having a few more struggles in the season—that makes them unpredictable. We have to come and be focused because they can be rip-roarin’ and ready to go and say, ‘We’ve got to bear down in the second half and do better,’ or they can be a defeated team,” she said.

The Pandas take on Calgary at 12pm and face Lethbridge at the same time the next day.

Sidney Crosby in a Winnipeg Jets jersey?



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Tough D key for soccer Bears against Dinos, 'Horns

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

The last time the Golden Bears soccer team took on the Lethbridge Pronghorns, the 'Horns scored late to force a tie. The Bears have only given up four goals in their seven games since, posting four shutouts and boasting one of the top defences in the conference. While their offence has rounded into form over the past couple of weeks, the second-ranked Bears will still be relying on a strong defensive effort when they visit Calgary and Lethbridge this weekend.

"The first goal was to get organized defensively because, philosophically, if you work to keep the other team from scoring, you're always going to be in it with a chance," Bears head coach Len Vickery explained. "It's always a little bit more difficult to get your attacking play organized. It takes a little bit longer to put it together, for players to get used to each other and to bring every attacking strength to the forefront."

With fifth-year midfielder Hilaire Kamdem missing games early in the season and more long-term injuries to defender Mike Kennedy and keeper Devon Fraser, Alberta (5-0-3) has had to find alternate sources to hold their back line.

"Dan Gusberti has stepped in [for Fraser] and played exceptionally well. Mike Kennedy has been out for some time, but we've had a number first-year players able to step in and show that they are able to play at this level—most notably Harman Braich and Eddy Sidra," Vickery said.

Gusberti has been a very bright spot, starting on short notice in the season opener and playing every game thus far. Gusberti is tops in the conference amongst goalies with more than four



FILE PHOTO: LAUREN STIEGLITZ

TRIPPED UP Maybe the other team's mistakes have had something to do with the Bears' outstanding defence this season. Or maybe the Bears are just real good.

games played in goals against average, 0.62, and save percentage, .872. Gusberti has had some help in posting those lofty numbers as he's faced only 39 shots, third-lowest in the conference behind only UBC and TWU.

"We've got two very good sweepers: Quenton Zalazar and Jarin Myskiw—they're interchangeable. They can both play the position as well as play a defensive midfield role. We've got exceptional goalkeeping with [Gusberti] right now," Vickery said of his defensive set-up. "We've got two centre-backs who are particularly tough and win most of their aerial and

ground challenges. We've got a little bit of speed on the flanks, whether it be Hilaire Kamdem on the left, Eddy Sidra on the right or Mike Kennedy, hopefully in the future [when he returns from injury]."

When the Pronghorns visited Edmonton early in September, Matt Hillen scored with only a minute left to tie the Bears 1-1. The Bears would recover from the letdown to defeat the Dinos 1-0 the next day. This time around, without home-field advantage, Vickery figures the games to be even more tightly contested.

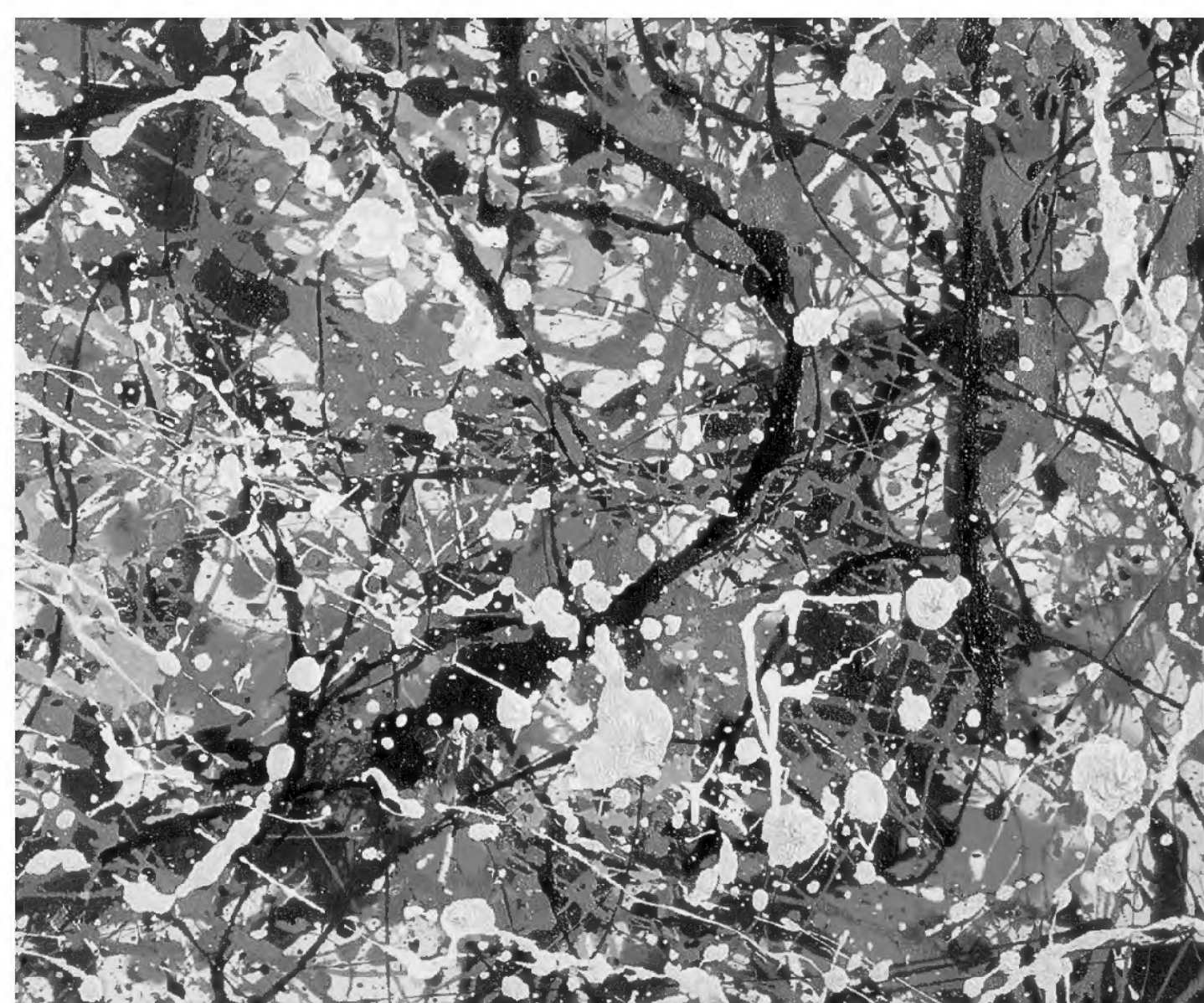
"Calgary have demonstrated already

that they are a contender this year. That's going to be an extremely tough game for us," he said. "We just hope that we can build on [our win over them earlier in the year] and get the job done Saturday, and take that momentum into the game on Sunday because Lethbridge has also demonstrated that they can get good results against the better teams."

With a pair of tough road games on the horizon, Vickery noted that the Golden Bears' defensive system would need to bail them out and give them more opportunities at the other end of the pitch.

"We have to ensure that we defend collectively as a unit," he said. "We have strong defenders in the key positions, and they are organized so that the other team will find it difficult to penetrate and score against us. That becomes the platform to all our attacking play: if we can win the ball back quickly and efficiently, we'll have more time with the ball. I think we've seen that with the goals we've scored recently."

The Bears take on the Dinos at 2pm on Saturday in Calgary and the Pronghorns at the same time on Sunday, in Lethbridge.



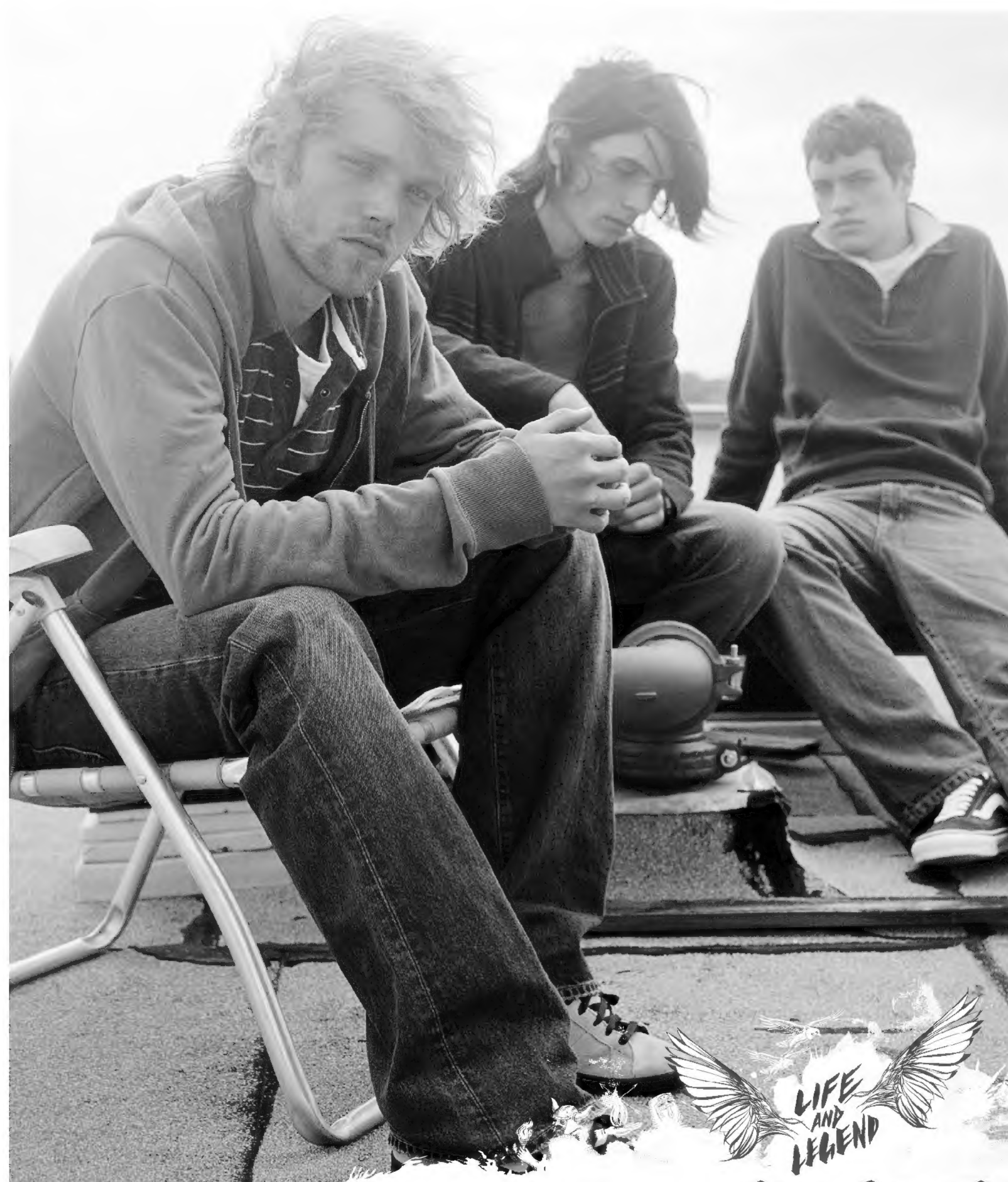
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FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

CUTTING EDGE Should the Bears be tripped up like this, they will probably score on the ensuing power play.

Tighter officiating could rule Bears-Dinos battle

TREVOR PHILLIPS
Sports Writer

With stiffer rules on obstruction penalties in CIS hockey this year, a plethora of whistles have made Canada West arenas sound more like busy intersections than hockey rinks. The NHL-style officiating has created a noticeable surplus in minor penalties and consequently more power plays so far in the young season.

Last week in Regina, the Golden Bears were the benefactor of 25 power plays against an undisciplined Cougar squad. The Bears managed seven goals in 30:45 of power-play time, while Cougar players struggled to defend within the rules against the talented Alberta forwards.

This weekend, the undefeated Bears (2-0-0) expect another tight checking affair as they face off against their gritty provincial rivals, the University of Calgary Dinos (1-1-0), in a two game set at Clare Drake Arena.

“[The Dinos] are a tough, physical hockey club,” Bears head coach Eric Thurston explained. “They are a quick

club—our game plan is to keep our feet moving because you can’t check what you can’t catch.”

In past seasons, Alberta has complained of Calgary’s penchant for using a clutch-and-grab style to irritate Bear snipers, slow down Bear checkers and agitate Bear goaltenders—infractions that largely went unpunished. This season, however, should prove to be different with the officials blowing down any and all stick infractions.

“The new rules should benefit us,” assistant captain Ben Kilgour agreed. “But we have to make sure we keep our feet moving so we don’t find ourselves in the box either.”

Last week in Calgary, the Dinos were sent to the sin-bin 15 times. Although their defenders were able to kill off twelve of those infractions, Calgary can ill afford to go to the penalty box against an opportunistic Bears offence.

“It’s important to capitalize on those types of opportunities,” Thurston said. “We feel that if we can add power play goals to our even-strength tallies, then winning those percentages would

result in a lot of wins.”

The Bears on the other hand were surprisingly disciplined against the Cougars, and are well aware of how potent the Dinos can be with the man-advantage—four of their five goals in last year’s playoff series came while Alberta was a man down.

“If we happen to take penalties we have to make sure that they aren’t lazy stick penalties but good, hard-working penalties; those you can live with,” Thurston said.

Special teams should once again be the headliner at this weekend’s games. With the increased scoring opportunities, Bears forward Dylan Stanley should have a legitimate shot to extend his point scoring streak to 31 games as the Bears look to extend their dominance over Calgary, having lost only twice in the past 53 games.

The action begins at 7:30pm on Friday, and the two teams will go again at the same time on Saturday. Also, the Bears will raise their 12th National Championship banner to the rafters as part of the Alumni Weekend festivities.

on Friday and Saturday. The Pandas will be looking to improve on their 2-3 pre-season record against the defending CIS champs.

spend all weekend on East Hastings and still manage to qualify for the post-season.

Ice Hockey

Fresh off their season-opening dismembering of Regina last weekend, the steel-bladed, frozen water Pandas are also on the coast this weekend; they’ll face UBC in a pair of games. Led by CIS Female Athlete of the Week Jenna Barber, who notched four points last weekend, the second-ranked Pandas should have an easy time with a Thunderbirds squad that split their season-opening series last weekend and have been conference bottom-feeders the past few years.

Shorts

Since Editor-in-Chief Matt Frehner is once again wearing boxer-briefs, it falls to A&E Editor Amanda Ash to carry on the Sports Shorts tradition. While wearing pink-with-white-trim female boxers—complete with penis flap—Amanda emphasizes that her sportrific underwear states that you must “Handle With Care” when dealing with her ass. I wish that I were making this up.

Basketball

These Pandas also get a free trip to Québec, though they get to go to Lennoxville to take part in the Lady Gaiter Converse Invitational Tournament at Bishop’s University. Friday they’ll see action against the Brock Badgers at 6pm; Saturday they’ll face the host Gaiters at 8pm, and Sunday they’ll finish up against the UPEI Panthers, also at 6pm.

Field Hockey

The Pandas of sticks and grass, or artificial turf, take to the coast this weekend for the third and final Canada West tournament of the year. With the host University of British Columbia Thunderbirds and Victoria Vikes each having booked tickets to Nationals, this weekend will be a showdown for the final playoff spot. However, given that Calgary, who has yet to win a game or score a goal, needs to sweep the weekend to oust the Pandas for the final playoff spot, Alberta could

SPORTS SHORTS

Compiled by Paul Owen and Ross “Champ” Prusakowski

Swimming

The swim team heads to Lethbridge for their first meet of the year on Friday and Saturday, and their first meet under new head coach Bill Humby. Humby takes over from Sam Montgomery, who headed the team the past two years. A former assistant in Calgary—the perennial CIS silver medallists—Humby has been charged with making the Alberta swim program competitive once more, which it hasn’t been since a stretch from 1988/89-1992/93 when the Pandas won four Canada West titles in five years and medalled three times at nationals, and the Bears won two conference titles of their own.

Volleyball

While the Bears host the Can-Am, the Pandas head to Québec for a pair of games against the Université de Laval

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ELIZABETH DURDEN AND LAUREN STIEGLITZ

HUB eatery fails routine check

SCOTT LILWALL
Deputy News Editor

A HUB mall restaurant is open for business again after being shut down on 3 October by Capital Health. The closure followed a routine inspection that prompted concerns over cleanliness and food storage.

Phi Phan, the inspector who did the check on International Fare, located on the north end of HUB mall explained that his visit found a number of violations in the back of the restaurant, including a lack of hand-sanitizer where the dishes were washed, blocked access to a sink used for handwashing, and food stored at improper temperatures. He explained that he was also concerned with the general cleanliness of the food preparation area of the business.

"They were given the option of a voluntary closing or a mandatory closing to clean up the problem areas [listed in the inspection,]" Phan said. "Both of the options would address the situation."

When International Fare did not opt for the voluntary shut down, Phan then issued a closure order, and the business was shut down until the items listed in the order were satisfied.

Naniee Phetnee, owner of International Fare, explained that the business closed at about 2pm on the Tuesday, and was ready for a second

inspection by the next morning, which was passed. The eatery opened again and is running on normal hours.

She added that a greater focus is being placed on keeping the restaurant clean and in line with Capital Health guidelines, and has urged her employees to stay vigilant on matters such as cleaning.

Phan explained that, while the business was closed for less than a day, the closure was required to for the sake of International Fare's patrons.

"Whenever there are violations, there are concerns about [the health] of those eating there," Phan said, stressing that Capital Health's requirements were place the health of consumers at the forefront.

International Fare passed the second inspection without incident and was allowed to reopen immediately. Phan explained that Capital Health will conduct frequent follow-up inspections in the coming months, which is routine for anytime a business is shut down for cleaning.

"We will continue with more inspections later. That's the procedure after [a closure,]" Phan said.

Anyone interested in reading the full closure order and the violations within can find a complete copy on the Environmental Health Orders section of the Capital Health website, at www.capitalhealth.ca.

ALSO READ PRUSAKOWSKI ON PAGE 8

City of Edmonton approves \$90 U-Pass

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

Students' Union President Samantha Power had a lot to smile about at a landmark Transport and Public Works' (TPW) budgetary meeting on Tuesday, as not only was it her 23rd birthday, but the City of Edmonton made history by approving a \$90 U-Pass.

The decision follows a similar one made by St Albert City Council on 18 September. This leaves Strathcona County as the only district left to outline its commitment to the U-Pass, which would give undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Alberta and Grant MacEwan College unlimited access to transit within the three city districts.

In a 2004 referendum, whose mandate ended last April, U of A students

approved a U-Pass at a mandatory fee of \$60 per term per student. But, because Edmonton Transit System (ETS) had calculated the tax-levy operating cost of running the U-Pass at the time to be \$120, an unfilled funding gap delayed its implementation.

However, Edmonton Transit System (ETS) Transit Manager Charles Stolte explained a recent re-evaluation of the merits of the U-Pass found it to be a beneficial tool that could increase ridership by as much as five to seven per cent.

"[The U-Pass is] an opportunity for more people to ride the trains and it gives better advantages to ride," Stolte said, explaining that ETS has increased the number of buses and routes to prepare to start the U-Pass in September 2007.

PLEASE SEE U-PASS ♦ PAGE 5

Court takes student's side

Athabasca University must outline privacy policies after adjudicator finds former president guilty of disclosing student's information to his colleagues

CHLOÉ FEDIO
Managing Editor

Over two years after the initial complaint, a provincial adjudicator ruled in favour of a student who complained that her privacy was breached by then-president of Athabasca University.

Late in September, it was ruled that the president disclosed too much of the student's personal information to other employees of the institution in an e-mail. The report does not name the student who sent the e-mail, but Dr Dominique Abrioux was president of the university at the time.

The adjudicator's report outlined that in June 2004, the student contacted several administrators—including a counsellor, the Academic Coordinator, the President, the Ombudsperson and the Vice-President (Academic)—to

discuss the possibility of resubmitting assignments and re-writing the final exam in one course.

After being advised to file an appeal under the University's Academic Appeals policy, the student contacted the president by phone. Following the conversation, the president informed the student via e-mail that he would be limiting their future communications to writing and that he would be recommending this approach to all concerned staff.

"During the course of their correspondence, the president forwarded that particular e-mail to employees of the University," said Wayne Wood, Communications Director at the Alberta Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner.

Wood explained that the e-mail in question included a sequence of prior

e-mails sent by the student, which contained more information than was necessary to the other staff members.

"Following our investigation, the adjudicator in the case found that [the university president] did have the authority to disclose some of the personal information to employees but not all of it," Wood said. "As a result of that, we've asked the University to develop some written policies to clearly outline what should and shouldn't be forwarded to others through e-mails."

Alberta's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* has applied to universities since 1999. Tamra Ross Low, Executive Director of the Athabasca University Students' Union, said that the student didn't come to the AUSU for any assistance, but that she supports the adjudicator's decision.

PLEASE SEE PRIVACY ♦ PAGE 4

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Battle of the nations

The Golden Bears host the eleventh annual Husky Energy Can-Am Volleyball Challenge this weekend.

SPORTS, PAGE 15



Taking his moneyshot

Carl Newman talks about The New Pornographers, and how their solo projects are the figurative band lube.

A&E, PAGE 20

SOCIAL
INTERCOURSE**Reading Writers Reading Launch**

Thursday, 12 October from 7–9pm
Audreys Books, 10/02 Jasper Avenue

The University of Alberta Press invites you to the book launch of *Reading Writers Reading*, where 160 Canadian writers document how reading has affected them. The launch will consist of readings, conversations and refreshments. For all of you out there who are currently disgusted with reading textbooks, take the night off and go read about other people reading.

The Pillowman

Starring John Ulyatt and Larry Yachimec
Directed by Bob Baker
Citadel Theater
12–29 October at 8pm (Sundays at 2pm)
\$30–\$40

Having premiered in 2003 in Britain and continuing onto Broadway last year, Martin McDonagh's black comedy *The Pillowman* has finally made its way onto Canadian stages. The play details the interrogation of a writer living in a totalitarian state whose short stories closely resemble a number of child-murders. Yes, child murder. Despite its comfortable, fairy-tale like title, the play is described as containing "strong language and extremely disturbing subject matter."

**Ten Second Epic**

With A Textbook Tragedy, Glory Nights and Dfinity
Friday, 13 October at 7pm
Edmonton Events Center (Formerly Red's)
\$8–\$16 at Ticketmaster

Describing their sound as "The Edmonton Oilers 84/85 Stanley Cup Championship" on their MySpace, Edmonton's Ten Second Epic hits the stage this week to promote their new album, *Count Yourself In*. In keeping with the spirit of their sound, the band's name could be a fresh take on the phrase "15 minutes of fame."

Mahogany Frog

With Daydream Exchange
Saturday, 14 October at 8pm
Victory Lounge
\$8 at door

Mahogany is a durable, richly textured, dark red wood. A frog is a small amphibian found primarily in tropical regions of the world. Together, they are Mahogany Frog, a four piece group hailing from Winnipeg that combines various genres, including jazz and experimental electronica to produce a durable, richly textured and amphibious progressive rock sound.

The Uncas

With Stephen Frank & Noises from the Toolshed, and Slowcoaster
Saturday, 14 October at 9pm
Sidetrack Café
\$10 at the door

The Uncas hit their hometown this weekend, bringing their self-proclaimed style of whiskey rock to the Sidetrack. Sadly, though, it seems that there's no aspect of society that whiskey—and in a broader sense alcohol—won't affect anymore, particularly rock music, which some have considered the last bastion of clean, dry living in modern civilization.

JOHN KMECH
Unfortunately, a Flames fan

One helluva gang bang

The New Pornographers might have a lot of members, but their solo projects keep the lovin' alive

The New Pornographers

With Novillero and Immaculate Machine
Tuesday, October 17 at 8pm
Edmonton Events Centre (formerly Red's)

AMANDA ASH
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Having a threesome definitely suggests good fortune, but for The New Pornographers, it's nothing compared to having an eightosome.

According to Carl Newman—singer, songwriter and guitarist for Vancouver-based alt-rockers The New Pornographers—the more members contributing to an instrumental orgy, the more interesting the group becomes. Of course, things are bound to get messy once in a while, with so many musical entities chaffing against one another, but from Newman's perspective, that's what makes the New Pornos' sound so distinct.

"Things aren't always crisp and clean, like [2005's *Twin Cinema*] alludes to," Newman says over the phone, his voice both pensive and animated. "We tried to make it that way on the record, but sometimes, it's quite messy and ugly; it's just in our nature. That push and pull makes us who we are—kind of like that guy who tries to keep his apartment clean, but finds it a struggle. [Crispness] just doesn't come naturally.

"We're definitely all on the same page, though," Newman continues. "I think it also helps that everyone has their own project, their own vent for their creativity. It just makes it very easy for us to click. Sometimes, when all people have is one band, there are a lot of conflicts because people want to have a ton of input."

The New Pornographers has been Newman's main project from the beginning, so those superficial group squabbles over who holds the reigns and who gets whipped have never quite become a daily occurrence, thanks to the unspoken veto power he holds over the group.

In addition to his work with The New Pornographers, Newman released a solo LP entitled *The Slow Wonder* a couple years back. After surrounding himself with people who are great musicians—"I know I'm not one of them," he muses—branching off was only the next logical

step, and with 2004 being a lean year for The New Pornos, Newman says he might as well have made an album to fill in the blanks.

The New Pornographers has always remained Newman's number one priority, but for the rest of the band, their preferences can swing the other way.

"When you already have one record that people really like, and you're in the process of making another, you look at that finished record and see what you're competing with. And sometimes, when your album's only a quarter done and still very rough, you compare it to your first album or previous albums and go, 'Oh God, how are we going to make a record as good as that?'"

CARL NEWMAN

"What you consider to be a side project changes depending on your perspective," Newman explains. "Like, The New Pornographers is my main project, and I basically put out a solo album as a side project. Whereas for Neko, Neko Case is her main project and The New Pornographers is her side project—that's the same with Dan [Bejar] and his work as Destroyer. It's all perspective."

As a whole and on individual levels, the last two years have proved fruitful for The New Pornographers. Since its conception in 1997, the band has risen from its garage, DIY status to a Polaris Prize-nominated gang, and after the wide reception of their 2005 release, *Twin Cinema*, Newman is taking the initiative to keep up with the forever-rising bar of musical esteem and venture

towards writing yet another New Pornos album.

"I always go slightly insane when I'm trying to do a record, because I'm always plagued with self-doubt," Newman says. "When you already have one record that people really like, and you're in the process of making another, you look at that finished record and see what you're competing with. And sometimes, when your album's only a quarter done and still very rough, you compare it to your first album or previous albums and go, 'Oh God, how are we going to make a record as good as that?' It's like, 'Who the hell is going to buy this?'"

"When you spend so long inside of something, you just lose all objectivity," Newman explains. "You wish that you could step outside yourself and listen to your music as if you were just another person hearing it for the first time. But you can't really do that; you try to, but after a while, your music just ends up sounding like a bunch of vowels and consonants and notes and chords, and you begin to lose the big picture. So that's where I am right now. The next record just sounds like a bunch of parts; I just have to put in the sweat and blood to turn it into a whole."

Newman might be uncertain as to how far he can lead The New Pornographers with their next album, but what he is confident about is the rest of the band's abilities to keep things entertaining. After all, an octet must be subject to innumerable humorous happenings, and you can only keep track of so many members at a time. As far as Newman can recall, *Home Alone* reenactments are—and will always be—a normal part of the group's everyday affairs.

"When we were in Milwaukee, we had a bus call at six in the morning, and John for some reason went to the hotel room at three in the morning to have a shower and somehow fell asleep—possibly due to alcohol consumption," Newman relates. "Basically, the next day we arrived in Minneapolis and were like, 'Uh, where's John?'"

Then we were like, 'Haha, that's funny.' And it wasn't like we got a phone call from him when we were en route. We didn't even figure out he was missing until we got there.

"He was mocked over that," Newman chuckles. "Gently, of course."



FAB Gallery roots itself in everyday senses

Sense of Familiarity

Runs until 28 October
Fine Arts Building Gallery

TONY KESS

Arts & Entertainment Writer

Most art is presented as a finished, unchanging product, but in the case of Erin Schwab's exhibit *Sense of Familiarity*, transience and reductiveness are what you'll find.

In her MFA showcase, Schwab uses sketch work and organic pieces—such as plant roots—in order to challenge the convention of polished works that need to force a message into the viewer. Schwab's installations are instead based upon emotional response and viewer interaction, and having a history with plant life, she uses these influences to create her work.

"I grew up around plants my whole life; I worked at greenhouses, tree nurseries, tree farms and my earlier work in my BFA mostly concerned flowers and leaves," Schwab says. "When I started working at the tree farm, it became very apparent to me that the leaves and the flowers were what the roots were doing ... there is no flower without a root."

Sense of Familiarity is concerned with growth and the departure from static, traditional depictions of

natural beauty. Her creations also portray fragility and chronicle the transitions undergone by both living and decaying matter.

"I dropped my focus down and started looking at a less stereotypical view of beauty," Schwab says. "I treated them like portraits or icons ... as transitory icons of nature. I started collecting the roots, and found I was trying to find a way to record what I was seeing. I collected them all and they were all breaking apart, and in trying to capture them before they fell apart, I was trying to record them."

And as Schwab's choice of title alludes to, her work is more than simple depictions of the ever exciting lifestyle of the root; her collection is also about evoking emotional responses in the viewer.

"It comes from the idea that sight has become the sense that we rely on," Schwab says. "We no longer rely on the emotional response to objects. When I collected the roots, I had no idea what I was going to do with them, but I knew that I wanted to do it."

"The works are about that sense of feeling, a sense of being connected to something before knowing what it is," Schwab continues. "There's that sense of familiarity, even if you've never encountered it before. For a lot



SCOTT JENNINGS

BRANCHING OUT Erin Schwab hopes viewers will find beauty in the mundane, organic things that are often passed by.

of the drawings and sculptures, once you become acquainted with them, you know that they're roots, but initially, they're more abstract. You can't tell right away, but you know and sense that it's familiar. So it's about an emotional response before visual gratification."

Schwab's media, specifically her charcoal sketches, also reflect her focus on creating the personal and interpretative analysis in the viewer.

The personality of the artist is found within this medium, and allows for an emotional dialogue between creator and critic.

"Drawing leaves a lot of evidence behind of the artist, in fingerprints and smudges," Schwab relates. "In the works, the artist is present, and people can see the process and the mistakes. It generates more personal questions in the viewer. People ask if my works are body parts or hands, and they tend

to identify with these works because the medium of drawing conveys that personality."

However, personal interpretation can sometimes work in weird ways.

"Because people can connect with these works, people have a tendency to view them as familiar objects, say ... body parts. Someone asked me if my drawings represented flayed body parts or hanging people," Schwab says.

Trailer Park Boys still ridin' white and dirty

Trailer Park Boys

Directed by Michael Clattenburg
Starring Rob Wells, Mike Smith and John Paul Tremblay
Empire Theatres
Now Playing

MIKE SMITH

Arts & Entertainment Writer

This film is dirty. No, I'm not referring to foul language, although there's plenty of that. I don't mean gratuitous nudity, either, but hey, some of that too. What I'm trying to say is that this movie is just pure grease.

The *Trailer Park Boys* movie is the theatrical translation of the hit

Showcase show of the same name. The film follows the adventures of three 30-something trailer park hoodlums. Or, in other words, it showcases their silly and sometimes plainly stupid criminal schemes. The three make for a colourful cast, and are supported by characters ranging from white trash rappers to single moms who moonlight as strippers. All together, they help to explore the stereotypes commonly associated with trailer parks.

The film centers upon Ricky (Robb Wells) and his quest to win back his ex-girlfriend, Lucy (Lucy Decoutere). During Ricky's last stint in prison, Lucy decided to start stripping in order to make ends meet and to support their

young barbeque-stealing, chain-smoking daughter. From that point on, the film spirals in a tragic tale of individuals living in a bad situation.

However, what makes the show—and the movie—so funny is the fact that these characters aren't upset with the lot that's handed to them. Ricky's perfectly happy living in a busted old car, and cooking tater-tots in a toaster oven on the hood. Lucy just wants him to get back on his feet before she takes him back, which to her means having a stable income from growing weed.

The characters are so greasy, and they all relish in it so very much. For example, Jonathan Torrens' character, J-Roc, makes amateur porn in his

trailer. Everything is so damn ridiculous that we can't help but ignore the fact that they're criminals and empathize with them—after all, Ricky just wants to take care of his daughter. Who cares if he thinks growing weed is a good retirement business?

Most impressive, though, is director Mike Clattenburg's ability to keep the movie interesting and entertaining. Taking a half-hour show and turning it into a 90-minute movie isn't an easy thing. The film never drags on; it feels perfectly paced.

However, because it falls outside of the continuity of the show, it's difficult to judge. Anyone who didn't like the show will probably not like the movie

due to its discontinuity, whereas those who haven't seen the show will do well to see the film. *Trailer Park Boys* makes a very good introduction to the characters, at least on the basic level.

For you fans, though, the film is still fun; it just feels like one long episode. Unfortunately, for those of you who are hardcore, *Trailer Park Boys* offers some entertainment, but there's no real additions to the storyline or characters. At best, it offers diehard fans a quick fix that should last until the next season debuts, but because of the huge amount of back story that the show has developed, it would be impossible to truly make *Trailer Park Boys* as meaningful to fans as some might hope.

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Running on moon power

Magnolia Electric Co just keep playing—even Friday the 13th can't stop them

Magnolia Electric Co

With Ox
Friday, 13 October at 9pm
Sidetrack Café

BRYAN SAUNDERS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Jason Molina, front man for Magnolia Electric Co, confesses that he is, indeed, a superstitious fellow. Even without the admission, one can make certain inferences based on his haunting song lyrics that tend to be filled with wolves, owls, ghosts, the moon, water, stars and the dark.

"That's just a language that I feel comfortable with," Molina says. "Some people have gifts with writing a narrative song that's full of people, and my songs tend to be filled with ... the physically important parts of my world. So if I'm being an honest writer, I just write a lot about the things that I know about."

"I don't have any superstition about playing music when it's a full moon on Friday the 13th," Molina continues. "In a way those are actually positive things in my mind."

It almost seems like an anomaly, but then again, everything about this man and his band seems to be an anomaly. You really can't say much more about a band that critics have compared to Leonard Cohen and Lynyrd Skynyrd in the same breath.

Even more baffling, though, Molina has just finished recording five separate records earlier this year, and he's in the process of wrapping up a never-ending, 50-city tour that's been going on for years now. You'd expect the man to finally want some rest, but according to Molina, that's not going to happen.

"Once the tour is over, [I hope to] be able to get into a studio and start working on what will hopefully materialize into the next record," Molina says.

In spite of this industrious attitude, though, Molina sees himself existing on the fringes of the music industry.

"No, I mean, I don't count myself as

a member of the music industry," he stammers. "In the ways that I have to work within what is generically called that industry, I begrudgingly do it."

However, what exactly Magnolia Electric is working towards still remains an open question. Surely, for a band that's been around for over a decade, there must be some dreams in their minds that they hope to accomplish.

"Writing new songs, getting a new record recorded and getting another tour, that's the way I look at it," states Molina matter-of-factly. "Basically, I don't have a concrete vision for how anything here should work out. I think the goal is just to write good music and try to play good shows. But I don't have a greater vision for this band having a terminal end, you know, an ending point."

"It's not run in the traditional way where we sit down and have a decided upon plan on how to get more popular and how to sell more records," Molina continues. "It's a free standing invitation; people can come and go as they please, as long as they still feel like they want to be playing music with me, that's how it works. It's not a traditional band, but it's a functioning band, and I think we're able to come up with what I think is important music—or else, I wouldn't want to put out the record, and I wouldn't want people to follow us all over the country and come to the shows and spend all their hard-earned money on music that we don't feel is important."

Which brings us back to the unresolved issue of how to describe the music of Magnolia Electric Co. Something between Wilco and Neil Young, perhaps?

"We never made a decision to sound a certain way," Molina says. "We just plug the guitars in, sit there and put together music; it's all about the natural feeling and presentation of the songs. And we go for it, and we try to put as much as we can into it. I just know that when somebody asks what music we play, I just say rock and roll."



Magnolia Electric Co

Fading Trails
Secretly Canadian
www.magnoliaelectricco.com

MATT FREHNER
Editor-in-Chief

Fading Trails is the perfect companion for Edmonton's bleak and rainy fall. It's the kind of album that should accompany a cup of Earl Grey, a warm blanket and rain-splattered windows.

Distraught, heart-broken folk artist that he is, vocalist Jason Molina of the Magnolia Electric Co boasts husky blues that've earned him comparisons with both Neil Young and Bob Dylan, and not undeservedly. In tune with Dylan classics like "Tangled up in Blue" or "Just Like a Woman," Molina's "Lonesome Valley" is at once wholly depressing and uplifting. The only difference is Molina can sing: his crooning is much less offensive than Bob's, as it lacks that scratchy smoked-a-bazillion-cigarettes sound, and can actually hit a note properly.

As with the rest of Molina's efforts—both with Magnolia Electric and his earlier incarnation, Songs: Ohia—slow, rambling guitars are combined with simple drum-and-cymbal work, punctuated by authoritative-but-warbling vocals and the occasional dash of piano.

As good as *Fading Trails* is, however, it fails to reach the height and complexity of Molina's earlier work. More accessible, straightforward and far less subtle, *Fading Trails* isn't really innovative, but is still well worth a second listen.

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Cuts like a knife, feels alright

The Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning

Directed by Jonathon Liebesman
Starring Jordana Brewster, Taylor Handley, Matthew Boomer, Diorna Baird, R Lee Erney and Andrew Bryniarski
Empire Theatres
Now Playing

PATRICK ROSS
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Ah, a deranged boy and his chain-saw—it's almost like something Norman Rockwell would've painted, had he been addicted to absinthe.

The Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning follows a recent Hollywood trend: that of the ever-dreaded prequel. The premise of the film is very simple, though—it chronicles the beginnings of Leatherface, the Hewitt family and the carnage they perpetrate in the heart of Texas.

In order for such a tale to be told, the story requires some victims. As is the case with 2003's *Texas Chainsaw Massacre* remake, the film supplies a very attractive quartet. Jordana Brewster—clearly seeking to replicate Jessica Biel's 2003 transition from WB obscurity to silver-screen stardom—portrays Chrissie, a young woman who's on a road trip with her fiancé Dean (Taylor Handley) before he returns to fight in Vietnam. His brother Eric (Matthew Boomer) has just been drafted, but he doesn't want to go. Instead, he and his girlfriend Bailey (Diorna Baird) hatch a plan to dodge the draft and escape to Mexico.

A chance encounter with a biker and a cow, and an ensuing car accident, places the group at the fickle mercies of Sheriff Hoyt (R Lee Erney). Eric's partially burned draft card invokes Hoyt's disgust and subsequent wrath, and what ensues is nothing less than a complete, um, massacre.

The Beginning provides the first complete, coherent vision of the Hewitt family, laying the groundwork for their future vicious escapades. Their seemingly unrestrained lunacy begins to make a certain logical—albeit twisted—sense. Now, as opposed to deranged maniacs, they're portrayed as cannibalistic hermits waging an unimaginably vicious guerilla war



against the outside world.

At times, the film comes across as a grim psychological and emotional endurance test rather than a horror movie. Whereas 2003's *Massacre* saw murderous strokes that were comparatively short and merciful, *Leatherface* now takes his time with his victims; he dispatches them with an unrefined and murderous glee.

Leatherface isn't yet the seasoned killer he becomes in later films. He attacks his victims with the vengeful passion of a young Richie Ramirez, causing the blood and gore to flow liberally.

But there's brilliance in this. *Leatherface* isn't yet the seasoned killer he becomes in later films. He attacks his victims with the vengeful passion of a young Richie Ramirez, causing the blood and gore to flow liberally. It's as if

director Jonathon Liebesman is daring the audience to look away.

In addition, Sheriff Hoyt serves as the savage carbon copy to Thomas Hewitt's murderous ways. Where Tommy is the novice serial killer, Hoyt is the experienced torturer, dispensing his abuse with complete and utter disdain for human compassion.

Liebesman (taking over for Marcus Nispel) takes producer Michael Bay's formula and works it to perfection. Every instant of this film feels dark, gritty, dirty and grimy. Like 2003's *Massacre*, Liebesman takes full advantage of his stars' sex appeal, but effectively contrasts it against the brutal ugliness of their surroundings.

The Beginning provides all the answers to the audience's important questions, but unfortunately, it's hard to really get excited about a film when you already know how it's going to end. On the other hand, though, *The Beginning* has the right stuff to force the audience to pay attention, mostly because there's a constant gushing of innards from the on-screen characters. Indeed, there's a good chance that you'll leave the theatre feeling as if your own heart has just been sawed into oblivion.



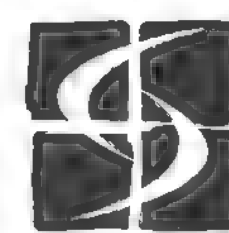
KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

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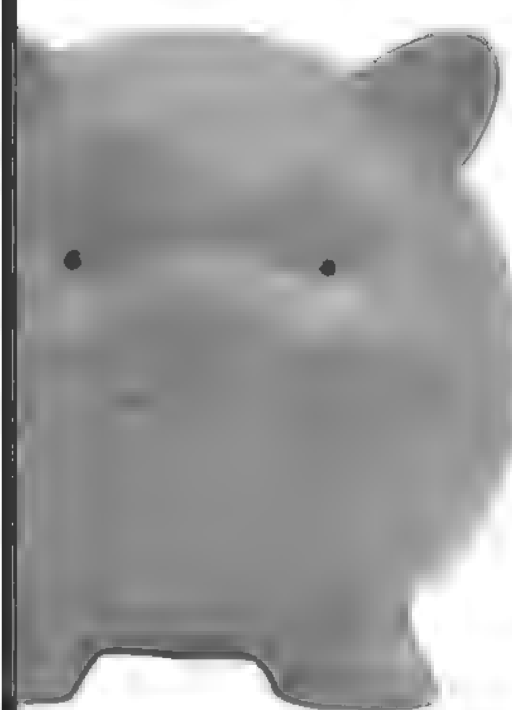


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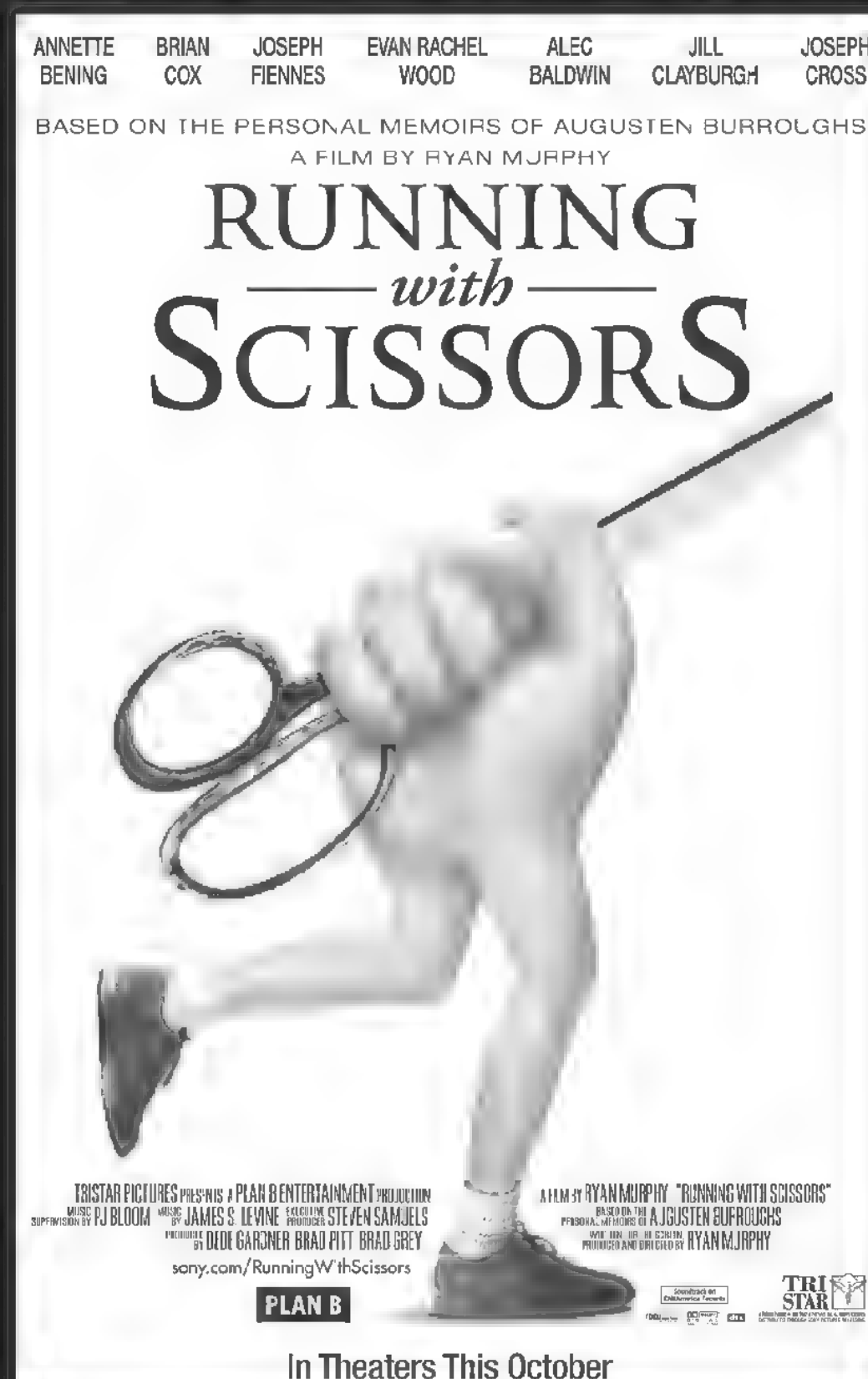
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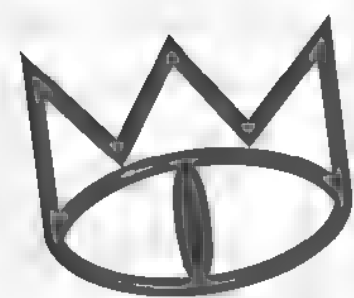
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RYAN HEISE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Has anyone ever wondered if the music industry really hates us? I mean, the amount of money sunk into churning out crap year after year could probably end world hunger. Richard Branson goes on and on about cutting carbon dioxide emissions or ending poverty, but for all the good he's done, his label Virgin will go off and do something completely heartless. They poured loads of money into the Orange County-based band Over It, and then proceed to drain all the life from the production. Yep, Mr Branson, you screwed it up, and it's a good thing you didn't get help from the band. Or did you?

Now Over It doesn't seem so bad on paper; they've been around a few

years, and obviously that experience might be reflected in their songs. But *no*. The writing is so amateur it immediately brings to mind the Rain-in-Spain, Moon-in-June kind of tripe that you thought Elvis killed off in the '50s. Couple that with the most bloodless production you've ever heard, and the result is a painfully mediocre album.

So Mr Branson, I blame you for producing and marketing this abomination. Then again, even saints have skeletons they want to hide. The only redeeming thing is that the landfill this CD gets chucked in will be overlaid with sod to make a playground. But even then, the jewel case would probably stick out and slice the delicate foot of some poor little kid.



Fake Cops

Thundertheft
Reluctant Recordings
www.fakecops.com

PAUL BLINOV
Arts & Entertainment Staff

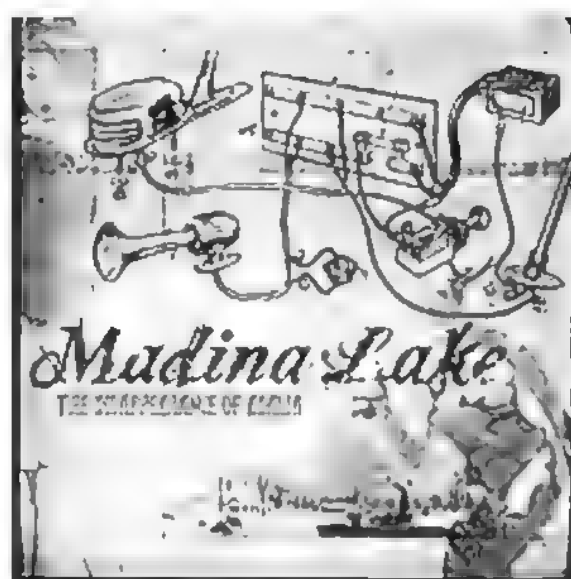
Fake Cops want to kick your ass. The Calgary-based punk outfit's latest release is like a fight by the high school flagpole; it's adolescent, brief (the album spreads itself to just over 15 minutes) and offers spectators an entertaining—if not a little thin—spectacle to enjoy.

You can hear the energy pulsing behind Fake Cops' songs. The opening track "Better Call a Priest" gives you 90-degree guitar stabs, lone-coyote vocals and even a little call/response guitar play. The result is a white-hot lesson in dynamic rock that more *modern* modern acts should get through their heads.

Unfortunately, everything that made

"Better Call a Priest" fantastic rears up in every other song on *Thundertheft* to a repetitive effect. In addition, the rest of the album shows Fake Cops sticking to their guns of hard punk rock, which is really what they do best; however, it would be nice to hear Fake Cops stepping away from their tried-and-true formula and toying with some ideas of greater diversity.

Fake Cops were wise to keep *Thundertheft* short. At seven songs, you can't complain of overindulgence on the band's part. Fake Cops know who they are and what they can do—in other words, they just want to kick your ass, even if they end up doing it the same way every time.



Madina Lake

The Disappearance of Adalia
Roadrunner Records
www.myspace.com/madinalake

TONY KESS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Madina Lake may as well just be honest and name themselves something along the lines of "My Chemical Panic at the Fallout Disco." That way, listeners hoping to avoid more of the same recycled, formulaic faux-emo, faux-punk and radio-pop for upset-girls-needing-new-screen-names can steer clear from the get go. This Chicago band is yet another clone of overplayed, radio-friendly emo, and influences such as Finch and My Chemical Romance are not hinted at here, but replicated entirely.

Aurally, Madina Lake is solid, if unimaginative. *The Disappearance of Adalia* is clean melodrama: catchy, hook-filled and emotionally gratifying.

Vocally, they're literally indistinguishable from any of their peers. The typical pop-punk tone and sing-to-scream tricks are reused in every chorus and bridge. Subject matter is of the standard fare for this genre: girls that hurt feelings and the boys who lived to write about it. There are some novel attempts at incorporating electronic elements into the mix as well, but really, they're just undeveloped afterthoughts.

The Disappearance of Adalia provides a solid debut that will please fans of the genre. However, fans of forward-thinking music should avoid it: their most ambitious move to date has been adding the "Electronica" genre classification to their MySpace profile.

gateway student journalism society

presents

2006 GSJS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 12 October, 2006 at 6pm

3rd Floor, Students' Union Building

Tentative agenda:

- Introductory remarks •
- Approval of 2005-2006 GSJS Audit (Ellis, Govenlock LLP) •
- Announcements •
- Refreshments •

All members (i.e., those with five or more *Gateway* contributions in the 365 days prior to 12 October and who have registered for membership with a *Gateway* editor) are asked to attend. If you have made five or more contributions to the *Gateway* in the 365 days prior to 12 October and would like to become a member, please contact the Editor-in-Chief at eic@gateway.ualberta.ca. This meeting is also open to the public.

For more information, please contact the
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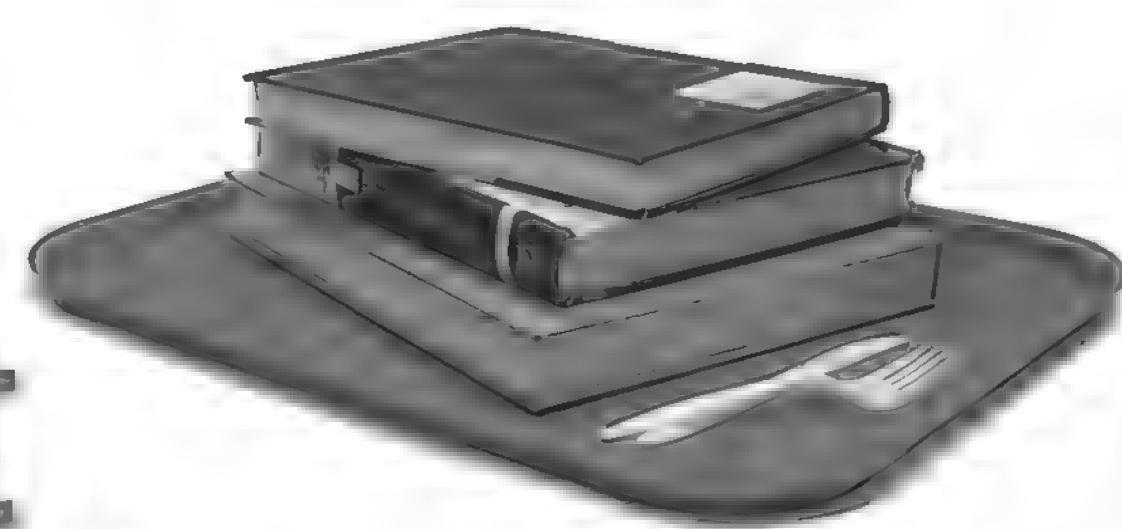
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at 780-469-3164.

EOT3 is a service provided for Registered Student Groups and University Departments only. EOT3 is printed semi-regularly in the Gateway. EOT3 does not publish events that are weekly, on-going, or not open to the public. We only accept free events. To play an entry in EOT3, please go to www.gateway.ualberta.ca/hbk. The Gateway reserves the right to edit entries for length and clarity.

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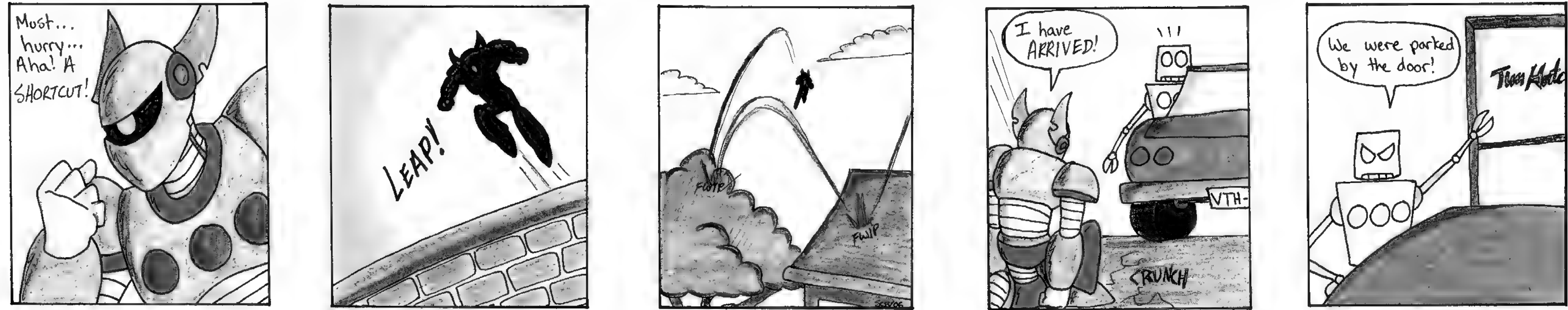
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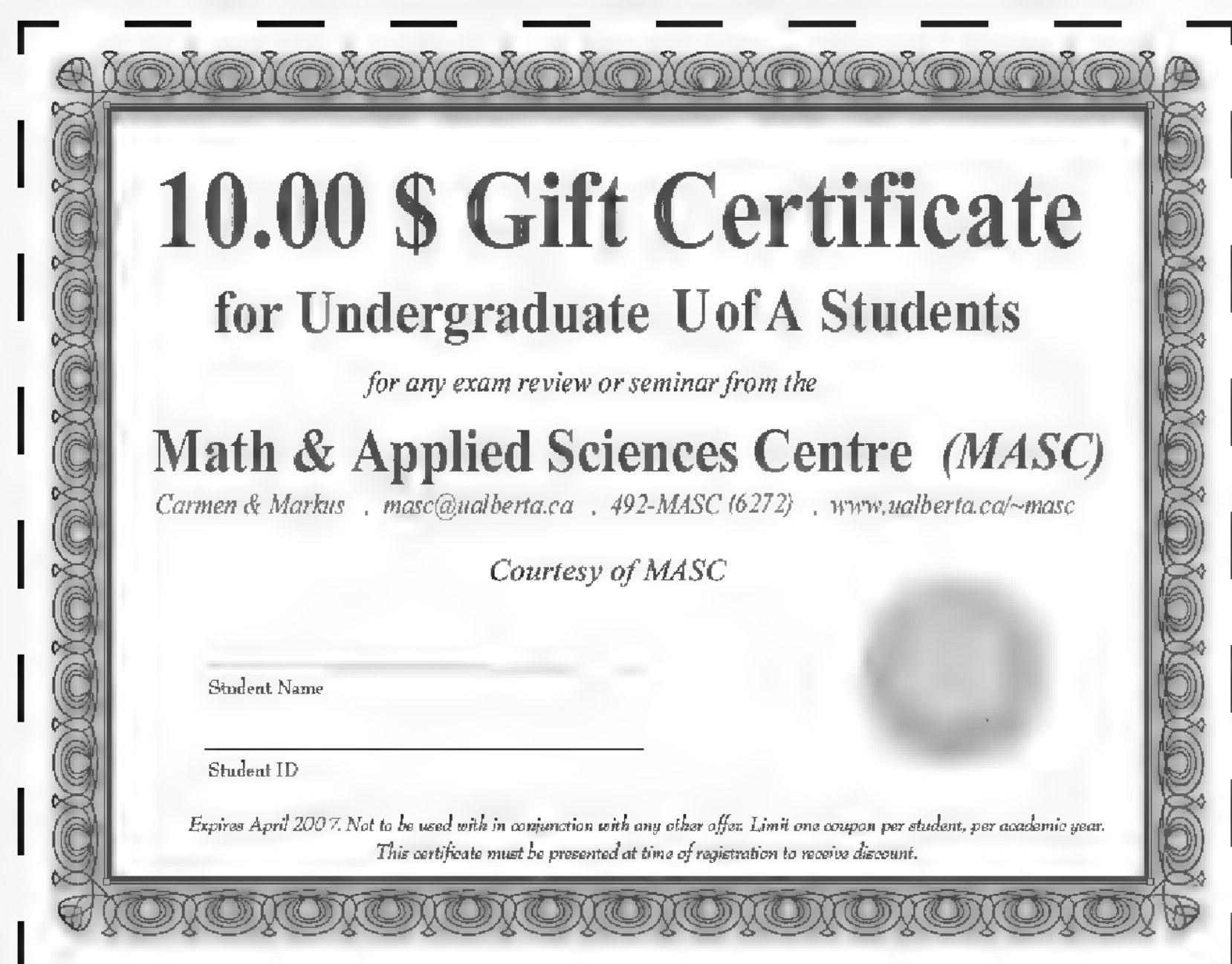
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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, Jmax, PowerLook 1000 flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super CoolScan opt. ca. film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images. An Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files. All content are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENCE, Joanna, Kepler and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper and we owe her dearly, though not in that way. The Gateway's games of choice are Call of Duty 2 and NHL Hockey.

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New tuition policy pushed back to later date

CHLOÉ FEDIO
Managing Editor

Despite reports that Alberta's new tuition policy would be announced yesterday, the government has extended the timeline again, with the possibility that the announcement will be made later this month.

Sunday's edition of the *Edmonton Sun* featured an interview with Advanced Education Minister Denis Herard, who outlined his goals to reduce the cost burden on students. The article ("Band-Aid Solution") also said that the tuition policy would be announced on Wednesday, 11 October.

However, Michael Shields, director of communications at Alberta Advanced Education, explained that the policy still needs to be approved by members of the government outside of the Ministry of Advanced Education.

"It has to go through government approval process," Shields said. "There was an anticipation that we might be able to do it, but it just requires more work and it has to go through the final stages of approval."

The article described Herard's plan to include communities and employers to help defray the costs of a student's education in exchange for a contract that would commit the student to work in the community for several

years after they graduate. And, though Herard hinted that the plans are well underway, no official announcement has been made.

The Ministry of Advanced Education has been reviewing postsecondary education since January 2005, when then-minister of advanced education Dave Hancock began consultations to make changes to the system. In February of the same year, Premier Ralph Klein promised to create the most affordable tuition policy in the country, and in June 2005, the *A Learning Alberta* review began, headed by a 17 member Steering Committee.

Since that time, Herard replaced Hancock, who resigned this April to run in the Conservative leadership race.

Dave Cournoyer, Vice-President (External) at the University of Alberta, said that he was expecting the policy to be announced yesterday.

"It's a way overdue policy right now. It was originally hinted that it was going to come out in March, and then it was hinted it was going to come out in May," Cournoyer said. "Following up from the premier's original commitments to give Alberta the most affordable tuition in the country, [Herard] had promised it would be done by September 2006. Now it's October 2006, so it's a bit concerning that it's taking them so long to fulfill this policy."



JOSH NAULT

THE SUN MAY COME OUT TOMORROW Cournoyer is waiting for the policy.

In May, the government passed Bill 40, which effectively took tuition out of legislation allowing Cabinet flexibility to reform the policy—something Herard referred to as the possibility for continuous improvement. But Cournoyer argued that by de-legislating the policy, the provincial government can change tuition policy on a whim, in a closed-door Cabinet meeting without any public scrutiny—or debate by other MLAs.

"No matter what comes out when the Minister finally releases this overdue tuition policy, how long will this policy actually stay and be Alberta's tuition policy if it's not in legislation?" Cournoyer wondered. "Albertans have no assurance, especially with a new premier coming along, a potential Cabinet shuffle, a new government, a provincial election—Albertans have no assurance of this tuition policy."

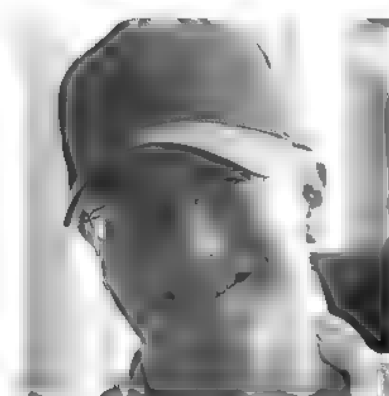
STREETERS

This Monday, Canada celebrated the Thanksgiving long weekend.

What did you do for Thanksgiving?



Thomas Luedersdorf
Comp Sci II



Eddie Noton
Ag/For IV



Erika Halverson
Science I



Alex Gainer
Economics IV

Saturday night I watched an Oilers game at my friend's house. Saturday and Sunday, I had two consecutive Thanksgiving dinners with two different families. That's about it.

I went hunting with my dad up near Vegreville. I also had Thanksgiving dinner with my cousins up by Tofield.

I went to Kamloops to visit my boyfriend. A whole bunch of my friends got together and made turkey dinner and just had fun.

I went home, back to Hanna. Visited some family. Did a little too much boozing, but it was fun.

Compiled and photographed by Scott Lilwall and Mike Otto



Newman urges tomorrow’s writers to ‘make facts dance’

MICHELLE LENNOX
News Writer

Students, professors and members of the wider Edmonton community gathered in the Telus Convention Centre last Friday to hear a lecture from legendary Canadian journalist Peter C Newman.

Newman, a former editor at the *Toronto Star* and *Maclean’s* magazine, was quick to show the audience his sense of humour. He opened his speech with a series of jokes, jabbing everything from the Avian Flu to Canadian politicians. However, his focus quickly shifted to more serious current issues, ranging from the War on Iraq to Canada’s involvement in Afghanistan.

From there, Newman turned to the key point of his discussion: the emergence of a new style of writing in Canada, often referred to as creative non-fiction. This new journalistic writing style places a creative twist on non-fiction that makes it more appealing to the reader—a method that Newman contends is increasingly necessary in today’s hectic society.

“[Today] you have to give [the

readers] more than facts. You have to entertain people ... tell them stories, convince them to spend their time with you,” he explained. “To do this, you have to make the facts dance ... endow them with feeling.”

“[Today] you have to give [the readers] more than facts. You have to entertain people ... tell them stories, convince them to spend their time with you.”

PETER NEWMAN

Writing from your gut, knowing who your audience is, finding a unique voice and incorporating cadence were just a few of his suggestions as to how to accomplish effective creative non-fiction. But according to Newman, the most important element for a writer to incorporate is authenticity.

“You have to be authentic,” Newman stated. “Truth is too big of

a concept, but authenticity you can provide.”

Newman stressed that these elements were important to all forms of writing.

“All this applies to journalism, to theses, to short stories ... to everything we do. [It applies to] writing,” he said.

Newman then turned to politics briefly. He argued that the future is in Canada’s hands and urged Canadians to be adaptable as the world changes around them. Finally, he spoke of the importance of appreciating our country.

“Too many Canadians take Canada for granted. We’ve got to get excited about our own country,” he said, “The way to do that is to see it and to touch it. Get to know this country. Experience the sunsets, wade across the rivers, climb the mountains, sail the lakes.”

The lecture, “Canadian Politics and the New Journalism: Making Facts Dance,” was the first of this year’s Mel Hurtig Lectures on the Future of Canada, co-sponsored by the Mel Hurtig Fund and the University of Alberta’s Political Science Department.

Photon computers a bright idea

Researchers hope to shine a spotlight on new technology, which one day may be used to design and build faster, more efficient computers that run on light

SEAN MCCLURE
News Writer

With no mass and all energy, photons, the particles of which light is composed, are the fastest things around, travelling 168 000 miles each second. They’re able to carry massive amounts of information across huge distances, racing through cables made of glass.

In the future, our personal computers may use photons to process and move information at impressive speeds.

The concept of a computer that runs on light is often called an “all-optical computer,” and the advantages over today’s electronic systems could be significant.

Mark Summers, an electrical and computer engineering graduate student at the University of Alberta, is working in a field called photonics; the technology concerned with the moving and storing of information using light. His work could one day lead to computers that run on photons, replacing the electrons that today’s computers depend on.

“The photon can be thought of as an ideal information carrier, superior to the electron in terms of transmitting data,” Summers said. “In optics, you overcome the problems associated with heat dissipation, and you can fit a lot more information at particular wavelengths in the same amount of space.”

Performance in today’s electronic computers is pushed to higher limits by cramming as many components as possible onto a microchip. The more pieces you can get on a chip the more operations you can perform every second. Electrons, however, like their personal space, and if this space is compromised they begin fighting for territory making things too hot and causing circuits to fail. Photons,

on the other hand, don’t mind each others’ company.

Still, getting a computer to run on photons would be a little trickier than simply shooting flashes of light down a tube. The light must be controlled the way today’s computers control electricity.

Inside your personal computer are miniature on/off switches, called transistors, that control the flow of electrons by only allowing those with certain energies to move. The other energies fall into a “gap” and aren’t allowed to pass through to other areas of the machine.

“The photon can be thought of as an ideal information carrier, superior to the electron in terms of transmitting data.”

MARK SUMMERS,
U OF A ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER
ENGINEERING GRADUATE STUDENT

Just as humans use a sequence of sounds to communicate with one another, transistors use a sequence of ones and zeros: “on” represented by one and “off” represented by zero. A bunch of these devices “talking” to one another is what allows a computer to be able to generate a picture or spell-check an essay for you.

A key step towards making a computer that runs on light, then, will be developing a material that has a gap for photons instead of electrons. In nature, highly ordered patterns in the translucent wings of certain insects cause parts of the sun’s white light to be filtered out. The remaining energies are scattered back to our eyes, which we see as

a display of vibrant colours.

Summers is fabricating what are known as photonic crystals. These structures are also highly ordered and possess a gap where certain energies of light are unable to propagate through the material.

Using a process called Glancing Angle Deposition (GLAD), Summers fashions these materials out of silicon. The technique uses a beam of high-energy electrons to transfer silicon atoms to a flat surface at an oblique angle, forming a highly ordered structure.

“The process grows isolated columns which look like a field of grass,” Summers said. “We use complex computer-controlled substrate motion algorithms to nano-engineer a complicated three-dimensional architecture inside the columnar film,” Summers said.

In other words, a fair amount of theory and computation would be needed to get the final structure just right.

Summers also believes that if an all-optical computer is possible, it will be realized in three separate stages.

“The first stage will involve integrating optical interconnects between the various chips inside a computer increasing the bandwidth between the devices. The next stage is to integrate microelectronic circuits with micro-photonic circuits, and the final stage will be everything optical, all the way to the human interface,” he explained.

In the near future, photonic crystals will most likely be used for simple applications such as frequency filters or light-directing devices. However, an all-optical computer is the ultimate dream for many. Only time will tell if the idea remains solely in the realm of imagination, or eventually finds itself in the hands of everyday users.

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Athabasca's privacy policy under scrutiny

Univeristy hopes new privacy advisor will help maintain institution's solid record on FOI requests

PRIVACY • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"It's really unfortunate that the privacy commissioner took this long for an issue didn't involve a lot of different issues—it was one thing," Ross Low said.

The current President of Athabasca University, Dr Frits Pannekoek, came into the position in June 2005, after Abrioux left. However, Ross noted that the adjudicator's report was not clear in stating which president forwarded the e-mails in question.

"And this is really unfortunate because the report just says 'the university president' which implies that it was the current university president, which it isn't," Ross said.

Ross explained that since that time, Athabasca University has appointed a privacy and policy advisor, Kent Nelson, to deal with any questions and concerns about the province's privacy act.

"It looks like something really good is coming of this because the University has been reviewing all of its policies and making sure that everything is absolutely compliant with privacy," Ross said.

Nelson explained that this case is the first instance in which Athabasca University has ever been ruled to be in violation of the Alberta privacy act.

"We don't very many complaints or requests for information at our institution," Nelson said. "Our record is good."

Wood explained that this case was nothing out of the ordinary and that his office deals with a "fair number" of this type of investigation every year.

"For the most part, everybody is pretty good at adhering to requests for information and making sure

that they're not disclosing too much personal information about people," Wood said. "I think overall, we have a 93 per cent success rate in the province of Alberta of freedom of information requests being completed, which is pretty darn good."

"Anytime we collect the information, we are required by law to advise the student of why we're collecting it, and under what legal authority we're collecting it and how we will use that."

**KENT NELSON,
PRIVACY AND POLICY ADVISOR,
ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY**

Alberta's FOIPP Act was recently amended during the Legislature's spring session (and won't be up for changes for another five years), but Nelson said that the changes didn't really affect postsecondary institutions.

He explained that the University collects only the minimal amount of information necessary to provide educational services, and that the information is relayed directly from students to the institution.

"Anytime we collect the information, we are required by law to advise the student of why we're collecting it, and under what legal authority we're collecting it and how we will use that," Nelson concluded.

University-level English doesn't make the grade

CATHERINE SCOTT
News Writer

As the University of Alberta tries to attract more international students to campus, the importance of teaching English grammar becomes obvious. And with this increased weight comes a need to improve the writing skills of both local and international students alike.

The Writing Task Force, created by the Dean of Arts Daniel Woolf last year, is designed to improve the writing of students throughout the University.

The organization is co-chaired by two U of A English professors, Ingrid Johnston and Betsy Sargent who both said that there isn't enough help for students with their English-writing at the U of A.

"We're trying to globalize our campus; we certainly don't want less international students. [But] the amount of support we have for them on campus is not as great as it should be ... the resources are really limited and also the University, just realistically, can't supply unlimited resources," Sargent said.

And it isn't just international students who struggle with writing in English.

According to Sargent, programs like Effective Writing Resources, which is run by the U of A's Academic Support Centre, offers help to all students, but currently there's only one person available to aid students with their writing. Many students take advantage of this service in times of pressure, such as when a PhD dissertation is due the next day, Sargent explained.

"They've been told their ideas are good, their research is good, but they need help with their English," she said.

Both Sargent and Johnston agreed that good grammar could mean the difference between an employer seri-



TARASTIEGLITZ

WORDS, WORDS, WORDS U of A wants students to know how to grammar.

ously considering a student for a job, or throwing out the student's resumé at first glance.

"One year I had my first-year writing class write a generic application letter for a job. [These letters were] going out to a banker, a builder and a businessman. The banker said he would interview three or four of them, the businessman said he would interview the same three or four [while] the builder didn't want to interview any of them ... [his comment being] 'if that's what they do with a comma, what will they do with a nail?'" Sargent said with a laugh.

But while grammar is important, according to Johnston, it isn't the only

thing that defines good writing.


"We believe writing is so much more than that ... there's a difference between good writing and correctness," Johnston said.

Both Sargent and Johnston agree that proper grammar is not separate from good content in writing. They encourage all students to look at the content of their writing more so than their grammar.

According to Johnston and Sargent, that's what good writing is about.

"Research shows that if you teach writing in isolation, it doesn't seem to have a large carry-over effect, but if you teach it in context, then it does," Johnston said.

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Everyone has the ability to be a revolutionary: Cullis-Suzuki

EDMON ROTEA
News Staff

Speaking to a small, attentive audience at the Myer Horowitz Theatre on Tuesday, Severn Cullis-Suzuki—the daughter of television personality and environmental activist David Suzuki—opened the Revolutionary Speakers Series' first lecture of the year by asking a simple question: "Who is the revolutionary?"

"It's not a matter of *can* [we] change the world, it's a matter of *how* we want to change the world," Cullis-Suzuki said.

Cullis-Suzuki began by talking about her own multicultural heritage and how the experience of the Second World War forever changed and shaped the lives of her parents and grandparents.

"My Japanese-Canadian father was a victim of prejudice during the war, as he and his family were interned and imprisoned in camps in interior BC. It definitely had a huge impact on who he is; he's always proud to stand up against prejudice and injustice," Cullis-Suzuki said.

"One thing I've always been taught [is] you have to stand up for what you believe," said Cullis-Suzuki, who has followed in her father's footsteps by becoming involved in environmental advocacy.

Her motivation to work in that direction was sparked when she embarked on a trip to the Amazon at the age of eight-years-old.

"I just felt that [the destruction of the Amazon] was wrong. It was so unbelievable that this incredible world that I had just discovered was being destroyed," Cullis-Suzuki said, as she recalled the life-changing experience of flying over the Amazonian jungle.

The experience led Cullis-Suzuki to found a club with her classmates—the Environmental Children's Organization, or ECO. Later, the group fundraised enough money to go to the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro—where Cullis-Suzuki delivered a speech that garnered her a standing ovation.

"I told them that I was twelve and that I had already witnessed



NICK WIEBE

SMALL STEPS HELP Cullis-Suzuki brings her message to the Myer Horowitz.

some pretty scary effects on my future—and that it worried me. And that before their goal as politicians, as professionals, as businessmen, as businesswomen—their first responsibility were [as] parents," Cullis-Suzuki said.

Later, Cullis-Suzuki discussed the environmental issues that she believes are of great concern, including the decline in biodiversity and the shrinking "ethno-sphere"—a topic discussed by previous Revolutionary Speaker Wade Davis.

"The ethno-sphere is the global sum of human thought, institutions, culture, stories and language about our planet. This is shrinking as the global population urbanizes and as we move everyone into a monetary economy," said Cullis-Suzuki, who noted that the industrialization of farming and economic globalization has limited the variety of crops species that farmers can grow and limited the diversity of shopping choices worldwide.

With this in mind, Cullis-Suzuki gave examples of how we can become revolutionary individuals in our own everyday lives. She denounced the unnecessarily excessive use of disposable coffee cups, drinking bottled water, and the controversial child-labour production of cocoa.

"Coffee cups are an example of pretty much the subconscious culture of waste, [with bottled] water we're talking about the commoditization of a human right, [and] chocolate is a luxury item that connects us directly to human abuses. These are very small decisions that we make every day, but they do have consequences," said Cullis-Suzuki, who encouraged people to stick to reusable coffee mugs, avoid drinking bottled water, and eat fair-trade chocolate.

"I think that the general revolution that we have to begin is to discover how we're connected to the world. We're connected to the ecology and the web of communities around us," she affirmed.

Admin on-board for U-Pass

U-PASS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Originally it was thought that we'd just put the buses on the university and college routes, [but] now we're putting the buses on all the routes," Stolte said, stating this would allow those not privy to the U-Pass to also reap some of its benefits.

"It's a trial. It has to serve the test of time and we're going to do that over the next few years—we'll be monitoring it on a semester basis," Stolte said.

A SU referendum on the U-Pass will take place, during general SU elections, the first week of March 2007. However, an additional agreement to be reached between U of A students and the Administration will see a further subsidy bring the U-Pass to an even more affordable level.

"Negotiations with the University have been [discussing] their commitment to bring the number down to

between \$70–\$80," Power explained, stating survey data previous to the 2004 referendum had shown that price range to be within the affordable level that students would accept at the polls.

U of A Administration previously directed all U-Pass inquiries to the SU; however, Don Hickey, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations), now confirmed the University is indeed negotiating a further subsidy with students and said at the TPW meeting he was there to "support the students."

"[The agreement between the University and the students is] going to be finalized in the next one or two weeks," Hickey said, adding that the Administration had previously remained silent on the issue because they felt the funding gap between what the students had agreed to pay and what the City would pay was too great.

"There were a lot of unknowns at that time, and the gap of where the City thought things should be and where the students thought things should be—it was just a little too much of a gap," Hickey explained.

But according to SU VP (External) Dave Cournoyer, the length of the U-Pass negotiations have been more of an issue than the price itself.

"We haven't received any negative reaction from students in terms of the price, if there's been any criticism it's been that it's taken the City, the University and the Students' Union so long to get a U-Pass," Cournoyer said.

A U-Pass has already been introduced to some degree at other Canadian universities, including the University of Calgary, the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University and Dalhousie University, and an online vote on 17–19 October will determine if the University of Lethbridge also adopts a U-Pass.

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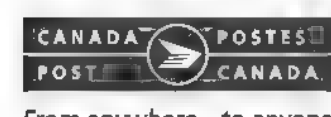
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IT GOES ALL THE WAY TO ELEVEN High-powered vibrators will help the sex lives of paraplegics.

Sex toys to help people with spinal cord injuries

BRANDON ADAMS
The Ubysey

VANCOUVER (CUP)—Researchers at two British Columbia schools are developing assistive devices to help improve the sex lives of people with spinal cord injuries.

Researchers from International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (ICORD)—a group of spinal-cord-injury researchers based at the University of British Columbia—and the British Columbia Institute of Technology have collaborated to develop specialized vibrators for men and women afflicted with spinal cord injuries.

There are more than 36 000 Canadians with spinal cord injuries, and an additional 1100 new injuries every year.

A study published by Kim Anderson of the Reeve-Irvine Center at the University of California-Irvine shows the importance of sexuality to individuals with spinal cord injuries. In the survey, paraplegics ranked regaining sexual function as their top priority while quadriplegics ranked it second only to regaining arm and hand function.

"Sexual health is just as important an issue for people with spinal cord injuries as it is with

anyone else. The fact that there may be complications that need to be addressed makes it all the more important," said Stephanie Cadieux of the BC Paraplegics Association.

Stacy Elliott, director of the BC Centre for Sexual Medicine and a clinical professor in the Department of Psychiatry at UBC, explained that most individuals with spinal cord injuries retain some sensation below the injured area of the spinal cord.

The specialized vibrators being developed by the ICORD-BCIT team are more powerful than off-the-shelf devices and will allow those with spinal injuries to experience more normal sexual function.

"We're hoping that there's reflex arousal stimulated by the vibrator," Elliott said. "We're trying to excite [pelvic reflexes] at the spinal level."

According to Elliott, who is leading the clinical trials of the vibrators, the collaboration of specialists is well diversified.

"They're the technological experts and we're the clinical experts. It's an excellent marriage between BCIT and ICORD," he said.

They expect to complete the research in six to eight months.

Universities sign in support of student reserve forces

NADYA BELL
CUP Ottawa Bureau Chief

OTTAWA (CUP)—Students will be able to serve in Afghanistan without quitting their studies after universities across Canada signed a declaration in support of the reserve forces.

Universities have agreed to defer exams that conflict with the training schedules of student reservists, and to readmit students to their programs if they take a year off to participate in overseas operations.

Students make up 40 per cent of Canada's reserve forces.

Corporal Ivanka Koulik returned last December from Afghanistan, where she spent four months driving a truck. She's also a full-time student at the University of Ottawa.

She said universities are usually fine with students taking time off, but that the formal declaration of support is positive reinforcement.

"After all, you're paying for the education," Koulik said.

Reservists are regularly asked to volunteer for Canada's overseas mission in Afghanistan, but the service isn't mandatory. They are also called in cases of natural emergency, such as fires or floods.

Navy Lieutenant Ian Livermore explained reservists have weekend training and other exercises, during which they have very little time to devote to their studies. Summer training can also set students behind.

Livermore is asking universities and school boards across the country to sign the statement of support with the Canadian Forces Liaison Council.

So far 157 institutions, including the University

of Alberta, have signed statements of support, said Livermore, adding he hopes the full list of 301 colleges, universities and school boards will sign on.

All institutions in Québec, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador have signed, as have many in British Columbia. A quarter of Ontario universities have also signed in support.

"With the students, notwithstanding what sort of mission they will be on, it's another opportunity for them to develop themselves and further their educations."

**DAN HURLEY,
DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS,
UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG**

Dan Hurley, Director of University Relations at the University of Winnipeg, said the agreement is about supporting the individual choices of the students.

"With the students, notwithstanding what sort of mission they will be on, it's another opportunity for them to develop themselves and further their education," Hurley said.

Currently, 2300 troops are serving in the NATO mission in Afghanistan, of which 300 are reservists.

Although Afghanistan is currently the largest mission Canadian soldiers are involved in, small groups are also serving as part of international missions in the Balkans, Africa, the Middle East and the Caribbean.

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Kim Jong’s got a licence to il

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF NORTH KOREA’S entrance into the ranks of the Nuclear Weapon Club has prompted criticism from all around the globe, from bitter enemies such as the United States and Japan to economic and ideological buddies like China. But even though the two countries are buddy-buddy, China knows what the rest of the planet does—that Kim Jong-il is unpredictable enough to actually use the weapons.

Which leads us to the 64 000-megaton question: what’s to be done now? Despite the fact that a nuclear-armed North Korea is a supremely scary thought, the cards aren’t all down yet. While economic sanctions such as those implemented by Japan, along with others proposed by US President Bush yesterday, are arguably a necessity, they must be paired with one-on-one diplomatic talks. Otherwise, we risk falling into the trap of one-upmanship: harsher sanctions prompting more atomic muscle-flexing and vice versa. However, while no one is suggesting taking a soft stance on North Korea, recently history has shown that a tough-talking, no-quarter-given stance simply doesn’t work.

The threat of force is only effective when it’s coupled with the option of diplomacy. What those who advocate an unyielding, hard-line stance seem to forget is that threats of military intervention with no hope of a diplomatic alternative will do nothing but back North Korea into a corner. A corner with primitive but functional nuclear weapons. And while there is no doubt that Kim Jong-il’s military would stand no chance in a military contest against those collectively calling for an end to the tests, the costs of a conflict in the area—economic, military and diplomatic—are enough to demand that all diplomatic avenues are exhausted before military action is set in motion.

The diplomatic approach is also our only real hope for preventing other nations from developing nuclear weapons. The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), designed during the Cold War to discourage weapons testing in exchange for greater access to peaceful nuclear technology, needs to be reworked. The document—written in a time before the Middle East and Asia became the focus of debates on nuclear weapons—is full of loopholes, but still holds one of the greatest hopes of preventing the spread of nuclear weapons. While probably not of great use when it comes to North Korea, as they already have developed and tested nuclear weapons, the NPT’s promise of delivering much-needed technology—with crippling economic sanctions being the alternative—might be enough to convince other nations, like Iran, to abandon their offensive nuclear programs. And of course, while Kim Jong-il’s condemnation of the atomic arsenals of countries like the US and Great Britain seem to be nothing more than a lame justification for his nation’s own weapon tests, a sincere effort at gradual disarmament from the world’s largest nuclear powers is an important step in preventing proliferation.

Tough talk and economic sanctions are an essential, but not sufficient, response to the North Korean tests—diplomatic talks are required. If one simply tries to bully a bully, all that results is a playground pissing-contest. And it’s no fun being caught with your pants down in the middle of a cold nuclear winter.

SCOTT LILWALL
Deputy News Editor

There’s always room at the apocalypse inn

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT POOR OLD KIM-JONG JUST isn’t getting a fair chance here. I mean, doesn’t North Korea deserve as fair a shot as anyone at ending civilization as we know it? Sure, their having nukes increases the odds that someone will actually use them, but as a belligerent species that continually neglects to learn from its own history, who are we to decide who can and can’t blow us up sky high? Oh yeah, the US, that’s who—I guess they’re the most experienced in this matter, after all ...

ADAM GAUMONT
Opinion Editor

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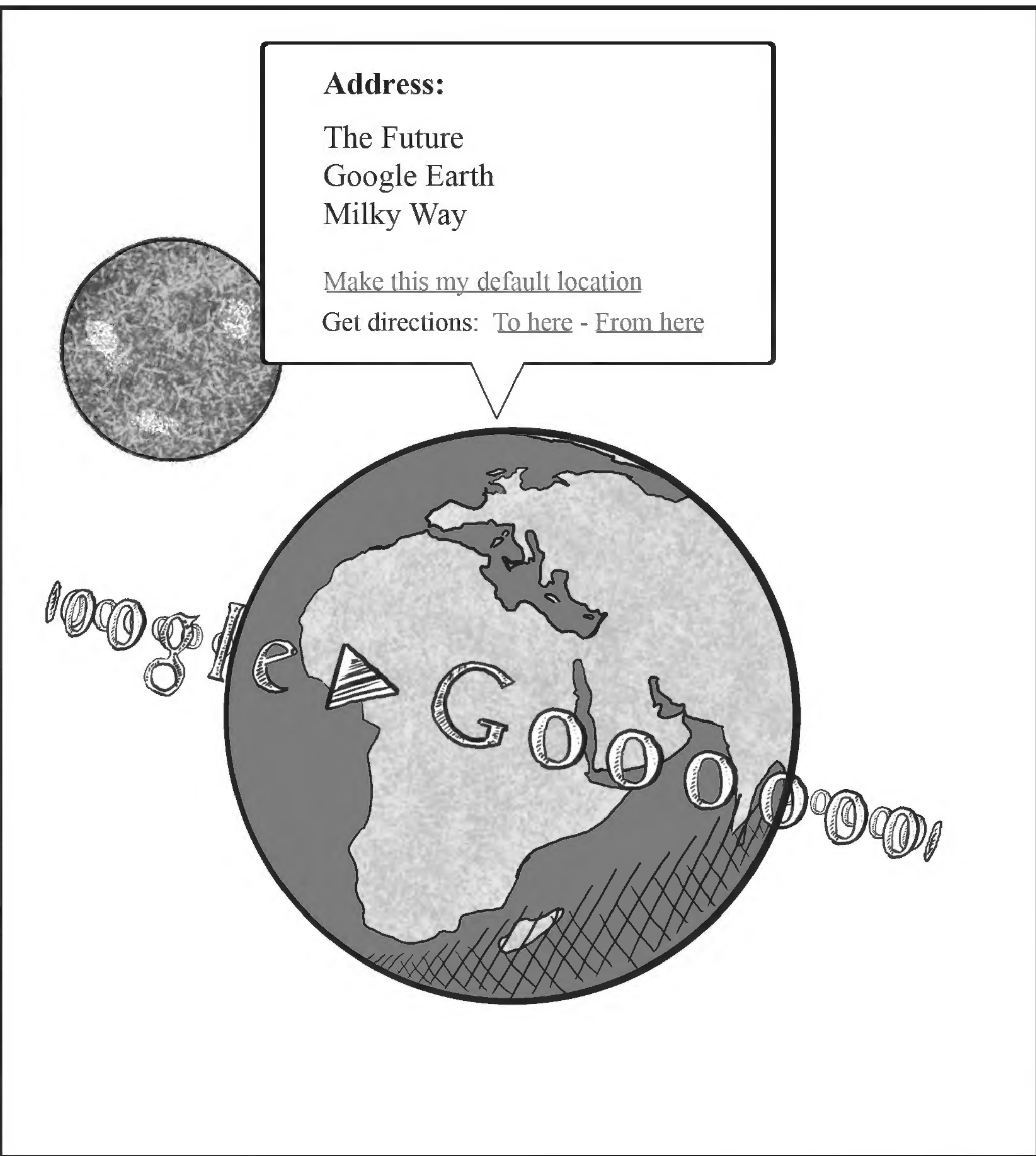
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MATTHEW BARRETT

LETTERS
Conditions in Middle East not so sweet

In response to Rivka Kushne’s article “In the land of milk and honey” (5 October), I would kindly like to point out that in an article published by the Israeli news source *Haaretz*, it was reported that more than 1.2 million cluster bombs were dropped into Lebanon, and quoting the head of the Israel Defense Forces rocket unit in Lebanon, “What we did was insane and monstrous, we covered entire towns in cluster bombs.”

According to the UN, around 40 per cent of all cluster bombs dropped fail to detonate on impact, and these bombs have a margin of error of up to 1200 meters in accuracy. You gotta love the “heroic” army and their cute “leaflets” warning Lebanese their country will be blown to pieces.

Long story short: end the occupation of the Shebaa farms, return the 10 000-plus Lebanese prisoners (compare this with the two soldiers Israel is outraged over), and stop the massacres in Gaza. This will indeed bring peace.

ALI HUSSEIN
Science III

Intolerance is a two-way street, Frehner

Rather than get into an unending debate about the nature of the word “tolerance” I will instead present a counter argument on behalf of those who believe that a Justice of the Peace *should* be allowed to refuse to marry a homosexual couple, or any couple for that matter, that he or she feels would be contravening his or her personal morality in regards to marriage.

Here is the comparison I will draw. Within the Canadian justice system any attorney, Crown prosecutor or even judge for that matter has the right not to get involved with a case in which his or her personal conscience would seriously “cloud” their ability to execute their profession task. Such examples are as self-evident as when a relative is involved in a case, and as ambiguous as, say, if a gay student is challenging a Catholic school board in court to try and win the “right” to take his gay date to the Catholic graduation dance. So let’s say that the judge appointed to the case was a strict Roman Catholic; or reversely, President of the Canadian Rainbow Society. Now that seems like a good instance where a government official should make a judgment of personal conscience and step aside. Would you not agree?

Back to the letter. Why would any gay couple wish to be married by anyone who is thinking through the entire ceremony “this marriage is not real and is only a fake marriage based on a panicked Liberal government vote-grab policy”? There are thousands of JPs out there. Why not make it easier on everyone, most of all yourselves, and seek out someone who will perform the ceremony with genuine warmth and acceptance?

Tolerance is not a government policy; it is an everyday type of interaction. Tolerance is an implementation of the very act of justifying the ends with the *means*, and never vice versa. If one believes that forcing a Muslim, Catholic or Biblicist JP into performing a gay marriage is a victory for true justice in the name of tolerance, then that one’s paradigm is truly just as intolerant as those who would wish to see homosexuality become a criminal offence once again. If the thought of forcing the Knights of Columbus into renting their hall out for a gay marriage

reception pleases certain members of the Rainbow movement and some of their journalist sympathizers, then truly such people are not above being intolerant themselves.

If transitions in social mentalities must occur, it must be through mutual respect and a willingness to engage in dialogue. Forcing anyone to support something that they believe is immoral is simply intolerant. No tolerant society justifies the means with the ends: not everyone believes that the Rainbow version of utopia is morally right not to mention the fact the there is not even any professional consensus on the issue of homosexuality being a “biological thing.” We must all learn to respect these differences of paradigm, for history tells us that paradigms will always differ no matter what education or social system is implemented.

JOE NUSSE
History V

More balance needed in marriage laws

The *Gateway*’s latest editorial attacking the non-existent “Defence of Religions Act” is underwhelming. Right from the headline, it screams predictability. At the very hint of an attack on same-sex marriage, the author screams that such a suggestion weds “intolerance” and “hypocrisy.” Far from being brave or courageous, its mediocrity suggests that it [was] created by a cliché generator.

Substantially, Mr Frehner has things backwards. Instead of accusing people of refusing to perform same-sex marriages as being intolerant, the real intolerance is forcing people to marry against their conscience. Saying people are “intolerant” for obeying their convictions seems to be quite a ridiculous proposition. Being simple “yes-men”

to the state denies the humanity of state actors and ultimately is the disposition that governments use to oppress their citizens.

Mr Frehner no doubt thinks that “personal politics or religious convictions have absolutely no place” in “public” positions. If this were held true, the result would be that people of all religions would be excluded from positions within government, since the religious cannot simply deny their conscience when it suits the state. Mr Frehner’s suggestion that people leave their faith at home, if anything, is both intolerant and incoherent.

A reasonable balance, in my view, can be easily achieved. If a public officer doesn’t want to marry a same-sex couple, why couldn’t a couple find an officer that is okay with marrying them? Must people be forced into violating their will to marry someone? That, as opposed to this non-existent act protecting people’s ability to make free choices, is the real concern.

JONATHAN MARYNIUK
Law I

Doubting Thomas finds faith in Oilers, puns

I was a Streeter in last Thursday’s *Gateway*, and I made a pretty pessimistic comment about the Oilers. I’m sorry. I don’t know what I was thinking; maybe staying late for micro lab just had me in a huff. Anyway, I’d like to revise my previous statement to, “He Can’t Ward us off this time!” I hope you publish this so I don’t get beaten up. Thanks.

ALEX CAMERON
Genetics III

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students’ Union Building, or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

Food safety no longer a back-burner issue



ROSS
PRUSAKOWSKI

While it's usually not best to preface an article with a warning, I feel that I would be negligent not to include one at the start of this piece. If you're an employee of the Regional Health Authority (RHA) or have faith that said organization does an excellent job of maintaining public health here in the Capital region, you may find what follows to be a little distasteful or unappetizing—much like many of the restaurants in the city. That's because, unlike said health authority, I don't have problems criticizing restaurateurs for failing to meet basic health standards and demanding action about it.

Last week, *Edmonton Journal* investigative reporters Karen Kleiss and Charles Rusnell produced a damning series of reports about the RHA's restaurant inspection program that found it to be secretive and extremely lax when it comes to applying health rules to restaurants. Based on a recent report by Alberta Auditor General Fred Dunn, the *Journal* reporters found that "Capital Health closed just five of the region's 3600 restaurants last year" and that "only six restaurants have been prosecuted since 1998 for health violations."

While it takes more than a paragraph or two to summarize the litany of problems with restaurant safety in

the Capital region, the problems with the establishments themselves is to me the lesser problem. After all, ignorance is supposedly bliss, right? But the fact that it took three years after filing freedom of information requests for Kleiss and Rusnell to get access to the evaluations is despicable.

The *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPP) should be a tool that protects information such as personal grades and addresses that governmental and regulatory bodies collect. It shouldn't provide the fig leaf with which the RHA can cover up its failure to adequately and vigorously enforce public health regulations. When it comes to what goes into our body and the chances that by eating at certain restaurants we might put our health at risk, consumers shouldn't be unaware that the establishment they've chosen was cited for eight health violations days before. Ignorance isn't bliss when you're getting rushed to the emergency room to be treated for food poisoning.

What makes Capital Health's unwillingness to release their reports more offensive than it already is is the fact that, in many parts of the country, information regarding health evaluations are made available online. In Toronto and Ontario's Peel region, they've gone even further and instituted their DineSafe program, which requires all establishments to post colour-coded inspection cards at their entrances with check boxes showing how an establishment fared on their last inspection and when exactly that was.

With this system, implemented in at least 50 other cities across North America, green means pass, yellow means conditional pass and red indicates that the establishment has been shut down. When Toronto started the program in 2001, 25 per cent of restaurants didn't pass; by 2004 more than 90 per cent were getting a green card.

Not only does the system show people what they can expect when going into a grocery store or restaurant, but the card system has obviously provided an incentive for establishments to improve sanitation lest they get a yellow card and lose customers.

In light of how well other parts of the country publicize and simplify the process to access their public health evaluations, Capital Health's long struggle to keep their records under wraps is downright pathetic. One can only hope that the public revelation of just how poor a job they're doing at enforcing public health standards shames them into taking improved steps to inform and protect the public.

Since their failings became public knowledge, Capital Health has already promised a website hosting the reviews by early next year, and while the recent closure of International Fare in HUB came about during a scheduled inspection, one can't help but suspect that it was a little bit of a PR move as well. But while these are good early steps, the public shouldn't be satisfied until Capital Health also adopts a scorecard system in which every establishment's results are there for all to see. That way all consumers will have some food for thought before they even sit down and place an order.



KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

THE GLOVES ARE ON An unidentified artist prepares an unidentified sandwich.

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FIELDS

A fatal error has occurred if you relied on campus computing



RYAN WILLIAMS

If you came to school today hoping you would get a computer to print, type up or put the finishing touches on an assignment, chances are you’ve just made a fatal error. Even if you just wanted to set up your notebook to surf the web while on your break, it would have been a better idea to exchange that notebook’s extra heft in your bag for a textbook. ‘Cause people, you ain’t gettin’ on the campus network!

If you’re one of the gazillion laptop or computer lab users around campus, you’ve undoubtedly noticed the growing trend that campus computing doesn’t work. If you’re like me and have a lot of gadgets, you may have tried Ethernet and wireless connections; when that failed and you still desperately needed to check your e-mail, you may have gone down to the nearest computer lab, only to find out that you still couldn’t get online. Even if you were finally able to connect to a campus server, authenticating likely proved to also be an impossibility.

It’s become such a problem that I’m having nightmares where little putty boxes are throwing “Network Error: Connection Timed Out” message boxes at me. Even worse is a recurring dream where I’m in SUB wearing nothing but my underwear; I try to connect to the campus server and all

“You have to hand it to Computing and Network Services (CNS) for being quick to react to the problems, though. They did what any responsible organization would do: change their name to evade the flood of complaints headed towards their voicemail inbox.”

it says is, “This network has limited or no connectivity.”

You have to hand it to Computing and Network Services (CNS) for being quick to react to the problems, though. They did what any responsible organization would do: change their name to evade the flood of complaints headed towards their voicemail inbox.

In case you missed it, CNS is now Academic Information and Communication Technologies (AICT). The home of AICT is now on the third floor of the General Services Building. Where was it before? Well, the same place—but the point is I’ve never had a computing problem in the last three years where I had to attempt to contact the administration. But now, after a week of sketchy-at-best access to the Internet on campus, I called AICT’s help desk number, where an automated voice let me know that there was currently no system problems.

No system problems my ass. Still, I stayed on the line as it instructed. Busy. I called back. Finally I got someone, and promptly let them know that neither Ethernet, nor wireless, nor anything else was working for—I glanced around to look at the amount of people playing solitaire waiting for their computers to regain connectivity—roughly 50 per cent of the users

in SUB. I got a polite and enthusiastic, “We’ll check on that right away!”—but all it amounted to was me calling back again the next week to complain about the same problems.

There have been many rumours about what has caused the problems, as well as counter rumours about how AICT has been dealing with them. Either way, whatever AICT is doing to fix the problem (if they’re fixing it at all) has not been quick or effective enough. Thousands of students use the service every day for resources such as Web Course Tools, the English and Film Studies Board (EFBSB) and other class reference materials. Not only that, but if you live on campus, using a campus machine or CNS may be the only option for you. You may not be able to go home and connect to the Internet at your house.

The bottom line is, I simply don’t feel that the issues with the system have been rectified nearly quick enough, if they have been taken seriously at all. On top of that, this is a service we pay for in our tuition, and that a lot of students require for academic success. AICT needs to get on top of these service problems and fix them right away, for all of their customers who absolutely need and rely on this system for their academic careers.

All I get is spam, spam, baked beans, spam

As long as spammers can fool some of the people some of the time, they will



ABDUL TAIYEB DOCTOR

Idiots. That’s what spammers think we are: idiots. Yet spammers are currently losing at their own game, even though modern spam-filtering software has improved so drastically in the past few years that hardly any unwanted e-mails come through to our inboxes. Still, spammers religiously send out millions upon millions of e-mails everyday in the hope of getting a few people to fall into their scams. In the process, according to the *Washington Post*, they cost businesses an estimated total of \$10 billion a year to handle and sort through all the unwanted e-mail.

I decided to see how stupid one would really have to be to think that spam was actually real mail sent by real people. The best way to do this was to go down to Lister’s cafeteria and order the greasiest shit I could find. One meal of that stuff and my brain was numb enough for me to browse my inbox.

The result: apparently, somebody thinks that I have some sort of erectile dysfunction, which means I can’t seem to pleasure my girlfriend the right way, and the only way to fix it is to use these amazing pills. Besides

that, I’ve got a few e-mails telling me that I need a hair transplant, a whole new make-over and that I should have plastic surgery done to every inch of my body, and also have my body hair removed with some newly discovered hair removal technique.

But I can’t be *that* physically appalling, as many girls have e-mailed me asking for a date, and many girlfriends and wives are ready to cheat on their lovers with me too. Either I’m a very popular person, or the scene in Edmonton must be very bad if I’m their best option.

Clearly I must have friends who are so good at English that they are able to use Michael Jackson, boy and penis in the same sentence without sounding like sex offenders.

I also seem to be up to my nose in debt, yet for some reason my house needs to be refinanced and redesigned. My bank account was also recently cancelled and the only way to recover the money, I was shocked to discover, was to sign in on some website and offer up my personal details. I think I just might, as some

person is Nigeria is willing to deposit \$3 million in my account for just a small favour ...

With my future financial prospects so good, I figured I might as well buy the cheap authentic Rolex from a friend who is selling it to me for a fraction of the cost. Buying the Cialis and Viagra shouldn’t leave me in debt either. I’ll have to pass on the pirated software though, as I don’t want to get in trouble with the FBI.

There must also be something terribly wrong with me as I just can’t seem to understand this sentence in one of the e-mails: “I’m a workerWe Mangaboos Michael have, one most wonderful Sorcerers that ever a bush; but Waylon Kaut’s Penis sometimes makes mistake? enquired the boy, pointing Jackson to some appeared top of the dome.” Clearly I must have friends who are so good at English that they are able to use Michael, Jackson, boy and penis in the same sentence without sounding like sex offenders.

Just as the food’s effect was starting to wear off, I finished reading my spam. Clearly, spammers think that most people have the intellectual capacity of a Chihuahua—or at least that there’s enough out there to make it a lucrative business. That’s why people like Jeremy Jaynes, the eighth-most prolific spammer in the world, can make around \$750 000 per month for doing next to nothing—and why I just bought into some hot stock options.



OUR WEEKLY LINEUP

Mini Burger Mondays:
Cure that case of the “Mondays” with 99¢ mini burgers and \$10 jugs. House Rules Apply. 7pm to close

Karaoke Tuesdays:
Downstairs in the LIBRARY. Like Canadian Idol, only our \$8.99 nachos are cheesier than Ben Mulroney. 7pm to close

Wing Wednesdays:
Get in V-formation and migrate to the land o' 25¢ wings. House Rules Apply 7pm to close

Loonie Thursdays:
\$1 Draught downstairs in the LIBRARY. Celebrate the invention of the loonie. 7pm to close

Finally Fridays: Extended Happy Hour.
“True North strong and nearly free” 3pm to 9pm

S.O.S. Saturdays:
\$2 Highballs downstairs in the LIBRARY. Your wallet is sending out an S.O.S. - Save On Spirits. 9pm to midnight

Music Trivia Sundays:
Test your music IQ. No studying required. \$15 Buckets of Domestic beer! 7 pm to close

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